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Greetings, and to those "Somewhere."
Brabant, 1a, Balfour-road, Dover.

MISS MABEL MANNERING.
Address, c/o "The Era."

MISS EDIE MARTIN.
Soubrette. Disengaged.
Musical Comedy, &c.
218, Stockwell-road, Brixton, S.W.

MISS JOSEPHINE MIDDLETON
thanks Mr. Lionel Rignold for third long and comfortable engagement as Lead in "What the Butler Saw." Disengaged. Address, A.A., 32, Regent-st., W.

MISS THERESA OSBORNE.
Lead
At liberty Dec. 26.
169, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

MISS JESSIE PRICE.
Character, Comedy, and Pathos.
Disengaged.
15, Windsor-road, Holloway.

MISS MINNIE RAYNER.
Baroness, "Cinderella."
Boxing Day, Lyceum Theatre, Newport.
Kingwater Cottage, Church-walk, Thames Ditton.

MISS LILIAN ROSEBERY.
Lead, Light Comedy. Broken English.
Open to accept first-class offers, owing to Mr. Carter Livesey having to undergo an operation for appendicitis.
Address, 59 Defoe-avenue, Kew Gardens.

MISS ETHEL RUSSELL.
Disengaged.
26, Gladstone-street, S.E.

MISS ISABEL SINGLETON.
Disengaged Jan. 4, term. of Tour. Heavies, Comedy, Character. Offers, 75, Brunswick-st., Stockton-on-Tees. Next, Hippo., Mansfield.

MISS GERTRUDE STERROLL.
Disengaged for a few weeks.
Avenil, Parkside-gardens, Wimbledon Common.

MISS BLANKA STEWART.
Mrs. Chichester, "Peg o' My Heart" (Macdonald and Young). Letters, c/o London and South-Western Bank, 42, High-rd., Kilburn, N.W.

MISS FRANCES WARING.
Lady Chiltern, "An Ideal Husband."
This week, Hippodrome, Darlington.
Permanent, 334, High-road, Lee, S.E.

MISS NONA WYNNE.
Disengaged.
Address, 28, Bridge-avenue-mansions, Hammersmith, W. Tel., 1105 Ham.

MR. JOHN and MRS. A'BECKETT
(Winifred Hamelin).
Char. Com., Juv., or Chamb. Disengaged.
Wire or write, 15, Queen's-street, Chelmsford.

MR. ANGUS ADAMS.
At liberty for Principal Character or Comedy. Thanks Mr. J. W. Jackson for 10 months' engagement. I also wish to thank the many friends for letters of condolence.

MR. CHARLES ALDRED.
General Manager for Mr. Fredericks' Panto., Xmas. At liberty Feb. 7.
Address, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

MR. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE.
At liberty Dec. 27.
Westbourne,
Forest Hall, Northumberland.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. BARCLAY.
Disengaged. Carpenter and Wardrobe.
Resident or Tour. Own tools. Own machine.
150, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

MR. JOHN HASTINGS BATSON.
Disengaged.
Address, c/o "The Era";
or the A.A., 32, Regent-street.

MR. HENRY BEDFORD
wishes the Compliments of the Season
to All Friends.
99, Halton-road, London, N.

MR. IVAN BERLYN.
Empire,
Leicester-square.

MR. CHARLES BOULT.
Insurance a Speciality! Life, Fire, Accident, Employers' Liability, War Risks, &c. Low Premiums, liberal Settlements. Write us, The Perth Theatre, N.B.

MR. MATTHEW BOULTON.
Touring, "His Rest Day."
Played for over 500 performances, and still going strong.
This week, Grand, Birmingham.
Next week, Regent, Yarmouth.

MR. CLIFFORD BOWN.
Disengaged.
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MR. H. T. BRICKWELL.
Managing Director,
Canterbury Theatre of Varieties,
London, S.E.

MR. WALTER BRODIE.
Principal Comedian.
Late Mr. Robert Courtneidge's Co.,
Mr. Michael Faraday's Co.
At Liberty Spring.
Flat 6, 30, Long-acre, W.C.

MR. and MRS. JOHN BURTON
(Miss Alice Mazzoni).
Compliments of the Season to All Friends.
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MR. GEO. E. CARLETON.
At liberty.
General Management, Parts.
129, Royal-road, Kennington Park, S.E.

MR. W. H. CAVENDISH.
Light Comedy, Character, Aristocratic Old Men, Legitimate. Town only. Disengaged.
Address, Putney Heath, S.W.

MR. EDWARD CHESTER.
Disengaged. Character Parts. Tall.
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Next, 140, Audley-road, Hendon, N.W.

MR. WILL CHEWD.
Principal Comedian, "Passing Hour" Revue.
Dis. Monday, termination of Tour.
Wire or write, Miners' Theatre, Ashington.

MR. CHARLES D. CLEVELAND.
Principal Comedian. Disengaged.
Concluded Summer and Autumn Tour as Pink the Butler, "What the Butler Saw."
6, Devonshire-road, Holloway, London, N.

MR. H. A. CLIFFORD.
The Effervescing Dude and Light Comedy Artiste. Just concluded with E. Dottridge's "Mind You Own Business!" 87, Lorrimore-rd., Walworth, London. All wires answered.

MR. and MRS. GEO. EDWIN CLIVE
(Miss Amber Wyville).
Tour starts April.
Perm. add., 46, Granville-gdns., West Kensington.

MR. MARTIN CONWAY.
The well-known Lancashire Comedian.
Vacant Monday, onward.
Wires, Black's Palace, Gateshead.

MR. TOM W. CONWAY.
Comedian. At liberty for Panto. or good Revue, owing to misunderstanding.
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MR. FRED. D. DAVISS.
Leading Business. Disengaged Dec. 27.
This, Prince's, Portsmouth.
Next, 265, Navarino-mansions, Dalston-lane, N.E.

MR. GEO DAVIES.
Disengaged for Acting, Stage, General, or Advance Management. Piloted "Little Miss Ragtime" 125 weeks. 2, Grove-crescent-rd., Stratford, E.

MR. H. W. EBBUTT.
General Manager, La Scala, Greenock.
Wishes all Friends "Good Luck and a Prosperous New Year." Concluded 12 years in Scotland, and "Not a Week Out."

MR. EDWIN ELLIS.
The Season's Compliments.
"Shell Out!" Comedy Theatre, W.
Somewhere—in 1916. Lord Derby's revue, "Have you got me!"

MR. FRED EUSTACE.
Disengaged.
Leading Business.
46a, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

SERGEANT LESLIE FAIRFAX.
On Active Service.
Late the Macnaghten Circuit, Ltd.
Wishes his many Friends the Compliments of the Season.

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as Hempseed, "The Scarlet Pimpernel."
The Strand Theatre, W.C.
18, Mornington-road, Regent's Park, N.W.

MR. ALFRED GODDARD.
As Mr. Gregory in "Mr. Wu."
This, Aldershot. Next, Coventry.

MR. ERIC GORDON.
Comps. of the Season to all "Pals."
Joined under L.D.S., Group 31.
This, resting. Next, Grand, Doncaster.

MR. JEFFERSON GORE.
Dr. Bigland "A Little Bit of Fluff."
MAUD KYNNERSLEY.
Disengaged.
88, Rectory-road, Fulham.

MR. FRED GROVE.
Trottar (Chivelling).
Disengaged.
56, Gresham-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. LESLIE HAMILTON.
Business and Stage Manager.
Ernest C. Rolls' New Revue, "The Other Dept."
Production Boxing Day, Empire, New Cross, S.E.

MR. CHARLES HARLEY.
Add., Wyndham's Theatre; or A.A.
MISS VIOLET HARLEY.
Engaged by Mr. Hutchison
for Miss Lang's part, Nelly, "Stop Thief!"

MR. H. VAL KIMM.
Business Manager.
A Merry Xmas to all friends.
This, Hippo., Woolwich. Next, Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

MR. J. FORBES KNOWLES.
At liberty. Good Plays to Let for Stock.
This, Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Next, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE.
Mr. R. H. Lace's Biondello is perfect.—"Burton Daily Mail," June 2, 1913. Arrangements complete. Letters, Actors' Association.

MR. J. R. LA FANE.
Producer,
"Cinderella" Pantomime.
Lyceum Theatre, Newport.

MR. CHARLES LAKE.
General Manager and Producer,
"Jack and the Beanstalk."
T.R., Guildford.

MR. HERBERT LAWRENCE.
Season's Greetings.
76, Russell-road, Sefton Park, Liverpool.

MR. and MRS. FRANK LISTON
(Maud Warburton).
The Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, W.

MR. FRANK LYNDON.
Disengaged Dec. 25. Heavies, Character.
40, Rhodes-street, Castleford.
Next, 4, Edward's-road, Whitley Bay.

MR. G. LYON-HASTINGS.
Martin Henry's "Mr. Wu" Co.
This, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.
Next, Opera House, Coventry.

MR. & MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY.
Own Tour.
En route; or Rostrevor, Poulton-le-Fylde.

MR. WILLIAM MATTHEWS.
"Oh! I Say!!" Co.
This, 4, Ordnance-road, St. John's Wood, N.W.
Next, Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. JAMES McWILLIAM.
Comedian. Disengaged.
Panto., Revue.
8, Everton-valley, Liverpool.

MR. F. MARTIN MORRIS.
"Rosemary; That's for Remembrance."
Arrangements complete.
Address, c/o "The Era."

MR. JAMES E. PAGE.
Spettigue,
"Charley's Aunt."
London Opera House.

MR. and MRS. WILFRED E. PAYNE
(Miss Marie Housley).
At liberty.
3, Charles-street, Berkhamsted, Herts.

MR. F. PENNINGTON-GUSH.
All communications,
83 Camden-road, N.W.

MR. FRANK E. PETLEY.
"Where the Rainbow Ends."
Garrick Theatre, W.

MR. HARRY PHILLIPS.
Assistant Manager and Stage Manager,
"Don't Crush" Revue.
This week, Grand, Birmingham.

MR. PERCY RHODES.
Disengaged.
The Third House,
Finchley Village, N.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON.
Disengaged.
Lead, Farcical Comedy, Revue, &c.
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MR. GERALD SAFFERY.
Brag and S. M., "Brewster's Millions."
This week, 33, Eardley-road, Streatham, S.W.
Next, Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN
Special re-engagement with Mr. Mark Blow for "Three Spoonfuls." 49, Claverton-street, S.W.
Next week, Garrison Theatre, Tidworth.

MR. and MRS. J. SIBLEY-HICKS.
Engaged by Mr. H. Hamilton-Stewart for "Open Windows" and "The Mummy and the Humming Bird." Preceded by their entertainment, "A Dickensian Reverie." Pier Pavilion, Colwyn Bay (two weeks).

MR. EDWARD THANE.
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London, N.E.

MR. E. W. THOMAS
and MISS AGNES KNIGHTS,
"The Second Mrs. Tanqueray" Co.
Dec. 13, Prince of Wales Theatre, Grimsby.

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Disengaged.
Character Parts or Old Men.
Address, 27, Charrington-st., Camden Town, N.W.

MR. A. W. TYRER
as Raffles. Spring Tour.
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28, Bridge-avenue-mansions, Hammersmith, W.

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At liberty.
3, Upper Tooting Park-mansions, Balham, S.W.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR.
Disengaged.
12, Water-lane, Brixton, S.W.

MR. BILLY WALTON.
Dis. Lt. Com. and Juv. Revue or Panto.
Thanks Lodge Percy for offer of re-eng. This, 9, Gillygate, York. Next, "The Era." Have enlisted under Lord Derby Scheme.

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WEATHERSBY, Theatrical Agency, 3, Bedford-st., Strand. 'Phone, 581 Ger. Tel., "Frivolous Westrand, London."

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"The Scarlet Pimpernel."
Strand Theatre, W.C.
Best wishes for Christmas to All.

MR. C. A. WHITE.
Now Disengaged. Character and Comedy Parts, or Stage Management and Production.
1, Harewood-road, Merton, S.W.

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Two-colour Cover, profuse Illustrations.
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WANTED, First-class Companies for KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E.
Feb. 14, 28, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 17, 24, on.

COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
March 6, 13, 27, April 24, May 8, 15, 22, on.
Good Twice Nightly Revues and Drama.

OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
April 10, 17, May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 5, 12, Aug. 14, on.

ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
June 26, Aug. 14, 21, Sept. 11, 18, 25, on.

HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 28, April 17, May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 5, 12, on.
Good Revues, Twice Nightly.

OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
The Opera House is the only building in Northampton holding a Dramatic Licence.
Feb. 28, June 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 4, on.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
April 17, 24, May 1, 15, 29, June 5, 19, 26, on.

Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.

Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only,
Feb. 7, March 13, April 17,
Easter, May 15, June 5, August Bank Holiday,
and onwards with exceptions.

THE VERY BEST ATTRACTIONS BOOKED AND REBOOKED.

Re dates, JAY and MANN.

COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
April 24, May 1, 8, June 12, on.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 6, April 3, May 22, on.
First-class business can be done, and only first-class attractions entertained.
Fast booking Autumn.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, Immediate and Future Dates,
Panto. or Revue, Christmas.
WEATHERSBY'S AGENCY, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

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Few Vacant Spring Dates.
WANTED, First-class Companies only.
C. G. ELPHINSTONE.

ROYAL
COUNTY THEATRE,
SHREWSBURY.

Touring Managers
Please Note.

Under the new Management Business this year has
BROKEN ALL PREVIOUS RECORDS
in the history of this theatre.

NOW IN THE FULL TIDE OF SUCCESS.

Managers of MUSICAL COMEDIES, West End REPERTOIRE, and FIRST-CLASS PANTOMIMES please send Vacant Dates and EQUITABLE Terms. We require THE BEST, and ONLY THE BEST ATTRACTIONS for the following dates:—

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MUSICAL COMEDIES, REVUES, ETC.
Jan. 10, 24, 31,
March 6, 20,
April 10, 17, on.

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Many Managers who have played here under the present Management proclaim that Shrewsbury is now ONE OF THEIR BEST DATES.

This is NOW a FIRST-CLASS THEATRE, properly equipped, staffed, advertised, and run on UP-TO-DATE Business Lines by an ENERGETIC Management.

New Booking Spring Dates for First-Class Attractions.
Full particulars to BATES MADDISON
Silence a polite negative pro tem.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.

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Vacant Feb. 7, April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 11 (3 nights), June 1 (3 nights), onward, with exceptions.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
Vacant April 17, 24, June 12, 19, 26, July 3, onward, with exceptions.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Arrangements complete.
THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY.
Spring Vacancies.
THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY.
Spring Vacancies.
KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Arrangements complete.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Spring Vacancies.
All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON, Ravenscourt, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Attractions
for Jan. 10 and 31
(owing to cancelling of tours.)
Also March 13 and on, with exceptions.

Applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON,
Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

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WANTED, First-class Attractions, as follows:—
SHAKESPEARE, LIVERPOOL.
Feb. 21, March 27, June 5.
Twice Nightly.

KELLY'S, LIVERPOOL.
March 6 and 20.
Once Nightly.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
April 17, May 29, and June 12.
Once or Twice Nightly.

Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

Telegraphic Address, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

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PREMIER
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This week, "BRAVE WOMEN WHO WAIT."
Xmas and New Year Attraction.
"THE UNMARRIED MOTHER."

Bookings ahead include:—
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WANTED, "PEOPLE'S POPULAR PLAYS,"
Feb. 28 (?),
June 5, 12, 19,
Aug. 14,
and various, onwards.
Address, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, 132, Charing Cross-road, London.
Wires, "Aitenev Ox, London."
'Phone, Regent 1480.

PIER THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
Jan. 17 and 31,
and various dates, onwards.
Apply, G. HAYES,
The Pier,
Eastbourne.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE,
LEIGH, LANCS.
Lessee and Manager,
JOS. B. LLOYD.
Now in full tide of success.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Sound, Once-nightly,
No. 1 Attractions
that can take money,
Jan. 24, Feb. 28, March 6, 13, 20, and on.
Jan. 24, Feb. 28, March 6, 13, 20, and on.
Jan. 24, Feb. 28, March 6, 13, 20, and on.
Jan. 24, Feb. 28, March 6, 13, 20, and on.
Lowest terms in first com. as above.
Silence a polite negative.

EASTBOURNE AND HASTINGS.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Jan. 3, Eastbourne (once or twice nightly).
Jan. 10, Eastbourne (3), Hastings (3).
Jan. 31, Hastings (3), Eastbourne (3).
ROWLAND, 28, Wingate-road, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Panto.
or Strong Dramatic Attraction,
Dec. 27.
Wire,
COLIN,
Hippodrome, Burslem,
Stoke-on-Trent.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, BARNSLEY.

WANTED, for Jan. 24, First-class Company.
Musical Comedy,
Revue,
or Combination.
Address, WILL SMITHSON.

WANTED, Important Companies (Musical preferred), for
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Vacant Jan. 27, 28, 29, Feb. 10, 11, 12,
Feb. 14, 15, 16, Feb. 24, 25, 26.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, 50, Union-st., Oldham.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ernest Stevens.

WANTED, First-class Company, Jan. 10.
Wanted, First-class Company, Jan. 10.
Wanted, First-class Company, Jan. 10.
To oblige Mr. Claud Allister.
Once or Twice Nightly.
Address, until Thursday morning, Marlborough Theatre, London, N. After, Carlisle.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.

WANTED, Wanted, through transferring,
First-class Attractions,
for Feb. 21, 28,
March 27,
and April 17.
All particulars to
J. CHARLES IMESON, as above.

COMPANIES WANTED.

H. W. ROWLAND'S BOOKING CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Attractions,
Once or Twice Nightly.
DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE,
Jan. 3, 10 (3), 31, Feb. 7 (3), 24 (3), March 3 (3).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS,
Jan. 13 (3), 31, Feb. 14 (3), 21 (3), 28.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE,
June 19, 26, July 10, 17, 24.
Revues preferred.
H. W. ROWLAND,
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'Phone Hammersmith 452.
Wires, "Topobill, Hammer, London."

LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Twice Nightly. A Great Success.
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WANTED, Managers with Big Attractions to apply for Dates for Musical Shows or Good London Plays. No Revues. Vacant dates, Jan. 3, Company gone off the road. Now booking Spring Dates from March 27 on. Silence a polite negative. Write or wire for terms to E. C. STAFFORD, as above.

PALACE DURHAM. On the Main Line, N.E.R.
WANTED, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Revues, and Specialities of all sorts, present and future dates. Apply, T. C. RAWES.

NEW EMPIRE,
NEWTON ABBOT.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Poole.
WANTED Known, Wanted Known,
opening Boxing Day, Dec. 27.
THE ABOVE THEATRE
HAS NOW BEEN
RECONSTRUCTED TO STAGE THE
LARGEST SHOWS
ON THE ROAD.
ROOF RAISED, EXTRA
DRESSING ROOMS AND EVERY COMFORT.
Vacant Dates,
Dec. 27, onwards.
Terms, apply
POOLE,
New Empire, Newton Abbot.

WANTED, Good Pantomime or Revue, Dec. 27, other dates if suitable; state lowest sharing terms. Wire, ELLIMAM, 144, Somerville-road, Birmingham.

LLANHILLETH, MON.,
PLAYHOUSE.
WANTED, Jan. 3, and on,
with exceptions,
Mus. Com., Panto., Revue, or Drama.
IVOR M. JOHNS,
Pavilion, Newport, Mon.
Wires, "Johns," Newport, Mon.

HIPPODROME, LEEK.
WANTED, First-class Musical or Dramatic Attractions, for Dec. 30 (three nights), Jan. 6 (three nights), Jan. 20 (three nights), Jan. 27 (three nights).
All particulars to ALLAN MILTON,
Hippodrome, Buxton.
Letters addressed to Leek delayed.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, First-class Attraction,
Once Nightly (not Melodrama),
Jan. 3.
Apply, J. E. BULL.

THEATRE ROYAL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.
WANTED, Good Musical Comedies, Revues, Dramas, &c.
Good Shows take the money.
Refer "Peg o' My Heart." £120 three nights, and many turned away.
Several early dates vacant.

OPERA HOUSE, SOUTHPORT.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Feb. 14, April 10.
THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.
April 17.
Address, PERCY HUTCHISON, Prince of Wales Theatre, London, W.

LYCEUM
THEATRE,
IPSWICH.

Lessee, EUGÈNE C. STAFFORD.

TWICE
NIGHTLY.
A GREAT
SUCCESS.

WANTED, Managers with Big Attractions to apply for Dates for Musical Shows or Good London Plays. Now booking Spring from March 27, on. Silence a polite negative Write or wire for terms to E. C. STAFFORD

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Under my management business this year has broken all records.

LYCEUM
THEATRE,
IPSWICH.

Lessee, EUGÈNE C. STAFFORD.

COMPANIES WANTED.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.
KENNINGTON THEATRE.
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SPECIAL NOTICE.

TWICE NIGHTLY SEASON.
TWICE NIGHTLY SEASON.
TWICE NIGHTLY SEASON.

COMMENCING IN FEBRUARY.
COMMENCING IN FEBRUARY.
COMMENCING IN FEBRUARY.

WANTED, Managers of High-class Musical Comedies, Dramas, Comedies, and No. 1 Revues, to kindly apply with vacant dates and terms.

Spring Vacancies:
Feb. 14, 28,
March 6, 13, 20, 27,
and on.

MILTON BODE,
Theatre, Reading.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, First-class Musical Productions, once nightly, Feb. 14, 28, March 6, 13, 20, 27, onwards with exceptions, till Easter. Twice nightly from Easter onwards, with exceptions. Tidworth to follow in most instances. ALFRED MANNERS, as above.

GRAND THEATRE, DONCASTER.
WANTED, good Company for Feb. 14 (?) and 21.
March 13.
April 10 and 17.
and various dates onwards.
Copy of day bill and particulars to—
J. H. CURRY,
Prince of Wales' Theatre,
Grimsby.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, good Company for Feb. 21, March 27,
April 17 and 24,
and various dates onwards.
Copy of day bill and particulars to—
J. H. CURRY, as above.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Musical or Dramatic Attractions (twice nightly), Feb. 7, March 6, 13, 20, April 24, on.
T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Twice-nightly Pantomime, Jan. 24.
Full particulars, terms, &c.,
T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Twice Nightly Pantomime,
Jan. 3. Full particulars, terms, &c.,
T. ALLAN EDWARDES,
Grand Theatre, Derby.

THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON.
WANTED, Good Companies for Feb. 7 and March 6; Musical Comedy preferred.
Apply, J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
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"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

25th Year of Continuous Touring.

The only Napoleonic Play that has ever stood the Test of Time. All others, like Napoleon himself, have met their Waterloo.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, for this Phenomenal Attraction, weeks of Jan. 31, Feb. 7 and 14.

Once or Twice Nighly.

Wire or write to

W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

Telegraphic address, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

WANTED 27TH DEC. 27TH WANTED
CHRISTMAS ATTRACTIONS
VACANT:
27th Dec., 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th. Jan.

"THE PASSING HOUR"

REVUE
FULL COMPANY AND CHORUS
also

"IT'S IT."

MUSICAL COMEDY REVUE.
Dec, 27? 27? 27?
Jan. 17, 24. 31.
Jan. 17, 24. 31.
also

"THE GIRL WHO WAITS AT HOME."

POWERFUL DOMESTIC DRAMA.
Dec. 27th, Dec. 27th.

BAUGH & MOULE,
Foresters' Theatre, LONDON, E.
Phone: 5954 Avenue. Wires, "Starryness, London."

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. ERNEST E. NORRIS'S REPERTOIRE CO.
Twelfth Year of Tour.
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 3 (Midlands); also Easter Week.
Address, Managers' Club, Wardour-street, W.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
It is one of the most charming plays ever presented to the public.—"Irish Truth."
An enormous Success.
Songs, Dances, Specialities.
Full Chorus of Real Negroes.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Feb. 7, 14.

CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Palace, Rochdale, this and next week.

"EAST LYNNE."
"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Monday next, Jan. 3 (3 nights), 10, 17, 24,

Feb. 3 (3 nights), and on.
Address,
J. PITT HARDACRE,
Arundel Hotel, London, W.C.
Wires, c/o Arundellian, London.

REVUE. REVUE.
"D. D. D."
"D. D. D."
(Dare-devil Dorothy.)

A Top-liner in the Revue World.
Light, Bright, and Breezy.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Jan. 3, 10, 17.
Jan. 3, 10, 17.
Jan. 3, 10, 17.

Address, J. W. CORDINER.
This, Garrison Theatre, Tidworth.
(Fourth visit in twelve months.)
Next, Coliseum, Bury St. Edmunds.

"WHAT THE BUTLER SAW."
WANTED, Theatres for a few Vacant Dates in early Spring.
Address, LIONEL RIGNOLD,
10, Prince Arthur-road, Hampstead, N.W.

"JENNY OMROYD."
WANTED Known, Miss Edith Panting presents
"JENNY OMROYD,
"JENNY OMROYD,
"JENNY OMROYD,
OF OLDHAM."
("The Woman of To-morrow.")
T. G. Bailey as Rev. Mr. Dogmat.
"JENNY OMROYD."
("The Woman of To-morrow.")
Miss Ella Thornton as
JENNY OMROYD.

The best Lancashire Comedy ever written.
"Jenny Omroyd" will make you split your sides with laughter.—"Liverpool Weekly Post."

All communications, T. G. BAILEY.
Dec. 20, T.R., Bradford.

"A MESSAGE FROM MARS."
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS."
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS."
(Once or twice nightly.)
Entire Apollo Theatre production carried.
WANTED, Jan. 6 (3 nights), follow Inverness, and Jan. 31 (Scotland only).
Apply, HORSFIELD AND WOODWARD,
102, Charing Cross-road, W.C.
'Phone, Regent, 5,780.

"WITHIN THE LAW."
"WITHIN THE LAW."
"WITHIN THE LAW."
The Record-breaking Success from the Haymarket Theatre, London.
WANTED, Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7 (3 nights), precede Oxford.
Feb. 14, 21.
Apply, HORSFIELD AND WOODWARD,
102, Charing Cross-road, W.C.
'Phone, Regent 5,780.

"FLORODORA."
"FLORODORA."
"FLORODORA."
(Once or twice nightly.)
Entire new production. Wardrobe, &c., carried.
WANTED, Feb. 7 (Yorks or Lancs), Feb. 28, Mar. 6, 13, 27.
Apply, HORSFIELD AND WOODWARD,
102, Charing Cross-road, W.C.
'Phone, Regent, 5,780.

"HINDLE WAKES."
"HINDLE WAKES."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, wire for
Dec. 27.
Unexpectedly vacant through Theatre closing.
HEYS, Mile-end, Stockport.

"ANN" (4th year) and "HIGH SPIRITS."
WANTED, Dec. 27, Jan. 3, 17, 31, Feb. 14, 28, April 10, 24. Wire,
HALDANE CRICHTON, Empire, Kingston.

STEPHEN CROSSLEY'S COMPANY
in the Successful Domestic Play,
"A WOMAN'S HONOUR,"
by Florence H. Crossley.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 3, 10, Feb. 14, 21
Wire for Jan. 3.
CROSSLEY, Gaiety T., Houghton-le-Spring; next, Palace, Tow Law, Durham.

BOTH PLAYS STILL PLAYING TO BIG BUSINESS.

HOW FAR A GIRL CAN GO

By MYLES WALLERTON.

ROMANTIC SPANISH DRAMA.
VACANT—
January 3, 10 and 31, precede Metropole, Glasgow; February 21, precede Grand, Stockton; April 24, May 8, precede Dewsbury; June 12, follow Rochdale; July 10, follow T.R., Sheffield; and few Autumn dates.

The Finest Mounted Drama on Tour.
Clear Stage Only Required

THE WHITE SLAVES OF LONDON

By ARTHUR SHIRLEY.

The First White Slaves Drama Produced in this country and still playing to packed business.
VACANT—
January 3, 24, March 6 and 13, precede Portsmouth (5th visit); April 3, follow Grand, Brighton (3rd visit); April 24, follow Metropole, Glasgow (6th visit); July 17, to follow Grand, Stockton; and few Autumn.

Owing to the continued success of this play, all new scenery has been added.

Many thanks to Mr. John Hart, of Sheffield, Mr. Peter Davey, of Portsmouth, Mr. Walter Betty, of Stockton Mr. Milton Bode, of Reading, Mr. Ernest Gates, of Brighton, and Mr. Arthur Jefferson, of Glasgow, for contracts this week, also Mr. Jack Arnold and Fred Ginnett, for offers.

Wire for January 3 for both companies.

Address for dates—
STANLEY CARLTON,
Earlham Lodge, St. Margarets-on-Thames
Those who have not received my Souvenir (Treasury Note Wallet) please send Post Card with address.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE SECOND IN COMMAND."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dec. 27, on.
WEATHERSBY'S AGENCY, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

"THE LIFEGUARDSMAN."
WANTED, Immediate and Future Dates.
Entire Production Carried.
WEATHERSBY'S AGENCY, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

"BELLA DONNA."
WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 27, on.
WEATHERSBY'S, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.
Tel., 531 Gerrard.

"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."
WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 27, on.
WEATHERSBY,
"Frivolous, Westrand, London."

"WHAT A MAN MADE HER."
WANTED, Dec. 27, on, follow Portsmouth.
WEATHERSBY, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.
Tel., 531 Gerrard.

THE BRANDON THOMAS COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Theatres, Jan. 17 and 24,

March 30 and Easter.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
London Opera House.

By Special Arrangement.
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Theatres, Jan. 17, 24,

Feb. 28.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
London Opera House.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Good Theatres and Music Halls,
for the New Revue,
"ALL'S WELL."
"ALL'S WELL."
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"ALL'S WELL."
"ALL'S WELL."
"ALL'S WELL."

A Magnificent Production.

Elaborately Staged and Dressed, with an Exceptional Cast of Well Known Artistes.

Wanted, Jan. 17, to follow production date and Jan. 31, to precede Camberwell Empire.

Fullest particulars from
FLORIO AND CO.,
FLORIO AND CO.,
FLORIO AND CO.,
18, Regent-street, S.W.
'Phone, Regent 1759.

WANTED, Theatres, for

Enormous Star, Unexpectedly Vacant.
Flying Matinées and Evenings.
Large Theatres or Halls with Stages.
Matinée and Evening, Dec. 27.
Evening, Dec. 30.
Evening, Jan. 1.
MANAGER, 51, Queen's-road,
St. John's Wood, N.W.
Cables, "Yokefellow," London.
'Phone, 1388 Hampstead.

"THE WARE CASE."
From Wyndham's T. Mr. Frank Fenton's Co.
WANTED, Jan. 31 (South), March 6 (between London and Liverpool), April 17, 24, May 8, 29, on. F. FENTON, 4, Park-place, St. James's.

"THE GATES OF MERCY."
WANTED, Theatre or Hall, Monday next, Dec. 27.
Next vacancies, March 20, April 3, 10, 17.
Wire for Monday next,
GEO. A. DE GRAY, 8, Wesley-street, Barnsley.

"MOTHER'S BROTHER."
"MOTHER'S BROTHER."
"MOTHER'S BROTHER."
"MOTHER'S BROTHER."
"MOTHER'S BROTHER."
"MOTHER'S BROTHER."

The Funniest Farce of the Century.
"MOTHER'S BROTHER."

By George Elton.
(Author of "The Other Man's Business," "The Other Lady," &c.)

WANTED, Theatres, Once or Twice Nightly.
Feb. 7, on (with exceptions).
ROBINSON,
29, South-Eastern-road, Ramsgate.

CHARLES MACDONA'S

SPECIAL REVIVAL OF

"NIOBE"

(ALL SMILES)

ENORMOUS SUCCESS

The present generation marvel at its wit and cleverness, and declare it infinitely superior to most of the Farcical Comedies produced in recent years. Managers please note that "NIOBE" is played twice nightly in its **entirety**, and is meeting with great success.

Refer to Mr. Philip Rodway, Theatre Royal, Birmingham, as to the quality of the company and production.

EVERYTHING CARRIED.

VACANT: February 14th, 21st, 28th, March 6th.

CHARLES MACDONA,
29a, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

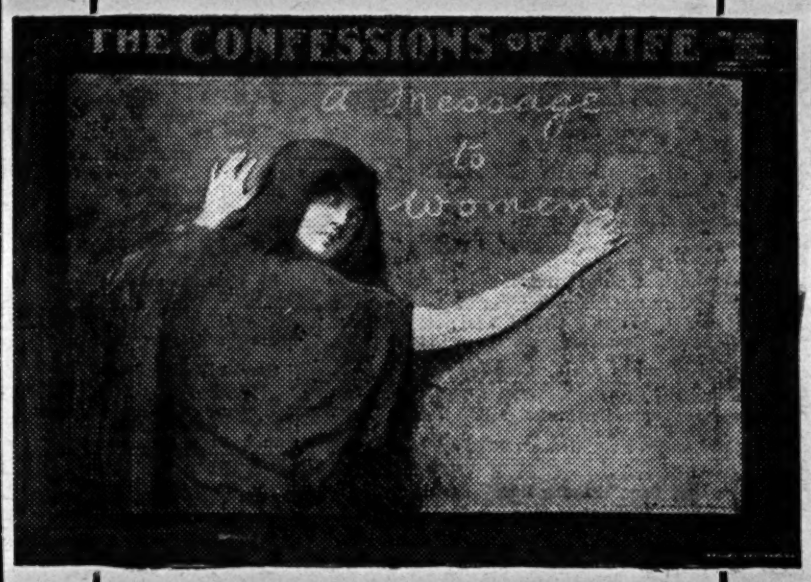
JOSEPH MILLANE
presents

"SOMEWHERE A VOICE IS CALLING."

Three Companies—
NORTH, MIDLAND, SOUTH.
Record Business Everywhere.
VACANCIES:
DEC. 27; JAN. 3, 10, 17, and on, with exceptions.

NEW PRODUCTION,

"THE CONFESSIONS OF A WIFE,"



Presented for the first time
NOV. 29, T.R., LEEDS,
REFER FRANCIS LAIDLER, ESQ.

PRESS OPINIONS:

LEEDS.—"'The Confessions of a Wife' is a drama far above the average run, and the scenic effects and dresses are in keeping with the excellent portrayal of the characters by Mr. Joseph Millane's Company."

"It is a play that should appeal to all lovers of drama, for the story is strong and well told. The comedy is excellent and the piece throughout has originality."

THE ERA.—"This powerfully written drama should have every success as it grips in every scene and the comedy is excellent. The scenery is beautiful."

THE STAGE.—"That the crime of which she is guilty is justifiable by the provocation offered by the husband is unsupported by the very facts adduced. This is the blemish in a play that otherwise would have been full of fine dramatic possibilities . . . . The climax is quite beyond the bounds of all reasonable probability."

FRANCIS LAIDLER, ESQ.—"A Commercial and Artistic success."

VACANT: DEC. 27, JAN. 3, 24, 31, and on, with exceptions.

The above is a reproduction of a striking 18 sheet in full colours by D. Allen.

TOURING STOCK COMPANY

Presenting:
"Somewhere a Voice is Calling."
"Confessions of a Wife."
"Women and War."
"A White Slave."
"A Child Shall Lead Them."
"Moths."
"St. Elmo," &c.

VACANCIES: DEC. 27; JAN. 3, and on.
Seasons of 2, 3, or 6 weeks arranged.

"Somewhere a Voice is Calling" and "The Confessions of a Wife" are written by Joseph Millane and Royce Carleton.

JOSEPH MILLANE,
This: Queen's Theatre, Poplar.
Next: 2, Fisher Street, Oldham.

THEATRES WANTED.

MITCHELSON AND VINT'S CO.

"A SAILOR'S WEDDING-RING."
"A SAILOR'S WEDDING-RING."
"A SAILOR'S WEDDING-RING."

E. Hill-Mitchelson's Latest Success.

Exceptionally Strong Company, including
Miss Ruth Shepherd.
Mr. J. Scott Leighton.
Mr. John Blake.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
JAN. 17,
JAN. 17,
JAN. 17,
MARCH 6.

This play is admirably adapted for Twice-nightly Variety Halls.

Wire or write to
E. HILL-MITCHELSON,
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Jan. 24,
Feb. 7.

Apply, this week,
J. USSHER,
Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

NEW PLAY,
"A WOMAN'S HEART."
By Ben Landeck.

WANTED, Spring Dates, also Good Theatre for Stock.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, Princes Theatre, Portsmouth. Next, Managers' Club, W.C.

HERBERT COWLEY'S TOUR.
"THE OLD ROSARY."
"THE OLD ROSARY."
"THE OLD ROSARY."
"THE OLD ROSARY."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Dec. 27, 27, 27.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
Printing Ready. Printing Ready.
Managers Note.—All gentlemen in the above company are ineligible for the Army.
Also vacant, Jan. 3, 10, and 17.
Wire, home address, 136, Bath-street, Rugby.
HERBERT COWLEY, Hippodrome, Rugby.

Wire for January 10.

UNEXPECTEDLY VACANT.

JACK WILLIAMS'

POPULAR REVUE:

WHEN IRISH EYES ARE SMILING.

STAR CAST OF ARTISTES, including

Miss NELL CRANE.

Wire JACK WILLIAMS. Grand Theatre, Luton.

MR. LEONARD MORTIMER'S No. 1 LONDON COMPANY
of Dramatic Artistes, Opera Vocalists, and Revue Ladies, in the Great Heart-throb Play of Human Natural Life,
"WHEN LOVE CREEPS IN YOUR HEART."
"WHEN LOVE CREEPS IN YOUR HEART."
"WHEN LOVE CREEPS IN YOUR HEART."
"WHEN LOVE CREEPS IN YOUR HEART."

WANTED (unexpectedly vacant through transfer), Jan. 3.
Jan. 3, Jan. 3, Jan. 3, Jan. 3.
Jan. 3, Jan. 3, Jan. 3, Jan. 3.
Jan. 3, Jan. 3, Jan. 3, Jan. 3.
Twenty in Cast. Everything Carried. Seven Magnificent Scenes. All newly painted by that fine artist, Francis H. Bull.
A Play Worthy of "The Silver King."
A Play to Hold Circle, Stalls, Gallery, and Pit Alike.
Gorgeous Music. Brilliant Dresses.
Remember, Leonard Mortimer's 17 Years' Unbroken London Run.
His name means Completeness and Success.
Instantly Secured by Messrs. Barnard Bros. for all their Theatres.
"WHEN LOVE CREEPS IN YOUR HEART."
"WHEN LOVE CREEPS IN YOUR HEART."
"WHEN LOVE CREEPS IN YOUR HEART."
"WHEN LOVE CREEPS IN YOUR HEART."
The Title by Arrangement with the Star Publishing Co.
A Revolution of Strong Real Plays
Wanted, Jan. 3, Jan. 24, Feb. 14, 21, March 13, various, on.
Address, LEONARD MORTIMER, this week, 158, Clapham-road, S.W.
Next, Metropole, Abertillery.

"THE UNFORESEEN."
By Captain Robert Marshall.
Author of "Second in Command," "Duke of Killicrankie," &c.
A Play with a Strong Plot and Plenty of Comedy.
Excellent cast. Pictorial printing.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Theatres, Once or Twice Nightly,
Jan. 3, onwards, with exceptions.
ETHEL LODGE,
27, Bolton-road, St. John's Wood, N.W.

LIONEL RIGNOLD and CHARLES MACDONA'S COMPANIES,
"DIPLOMACY."

WANTED, April 3, 10, 24, May 29.
Address, 29A, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

MR. WILL CASEY'S COMPANY,
"HER SAILOR LOVER."

WANTED, for above Box Office Attractions, Jan. 3 and 10.
Wire.
This week, Hippodrome, Mexborough.
Next, Palace Theatre, Battersea.

VACANT MONDAY.

Great Xmas Attraction.

MISS MADGE FENTON'S SUCCESSFUL REVUE,

"COME IN, MISS!"

THE REVUE WITH 35 WEEKS' SOLID SUCCESS.
Refer London Syndicate Halls.
Vacant Monday through transferring.
Also for immediate dates
WIRE, WRITE OR 'PHONE,
MADGE FENTON,
PALACE, TOTTENHAM.
Many thanks Chas. Stafford for further Contracts, and return for Camberwell.

LENA STANTON'S PANTOMIMES AND REVUES.

ROBINSON CRUSOE

(40 Artistes.)

1915-1916 Production LYCEUM T., IPSWICH.

Vacant: Jan. 31, Feb. 21, on.

Last Year's GRAND T., PLYMOUTH, production, where over 140,000 persons paid to see this record success in 5 weeks and one day.

WANTED KNOWN, **£100** will be given to any Professional Charitable Institution if any person can prove I was not Sole Proprietress, and that the Book is not the same as written by Harry Joseph and produced by me at Birmingham, Halifax, Eastbourne, &c., &c., and has

ALWAYS BEEN A SUCCESS.

CAST:

Lena Stanton	as	Crusoe
Maisie Lynne	,,	Polly
Ethel Robertson	,,	Billy Taylor
Val Gerald		Special Part
Little Toss	,,	Jock Crusoe
Queen West	,,	2nd Girl
Saidie Earley	,,	Fairy
Ray Girls	,,	Sisters
Frank Shephard	,,	Will Atkins
Cliffe Astley	,,	Dame
The FIMANS		Special Parts
Bobbie Gray	,,	King
Willie West	,,	Friday

Specialities by:—
Ray Girls ... Valerie and West
The Fimans ... Vic. Verney
Little Toss and Beauty Chorus
Hullo Girls Troupe of Dancers
Scenery by Joe Richie
M.D.—Arthur Williams

DICK WHITTINGTON

Written by HARRY JOSEPH.

Vacant: Jan. 17, 24, on.

CAST (40 artistes).

Lena Joseph	as	Dick Whittington
Lou Charlesworth	,,	Alice
Annie Floradora	,,	2nd Boy
Ivy Floradora	,,	2nd Girl
Lucie Florodora	,,	Special Boy
Kitty Bourne	,,	Fairy
Elsie Gerrard	,,	Princess

Casino Troupe of Lady Dancers
Scenery by Joe Richie

Harry Joseph	as	Dame
Dan Twyford	,,	Idle Jack
T. Owen Hunter	,,	Fitzwarren
Hector Bain	,,	Emperor
Darby & McClester	,,	Knockabouts

—— Specialities ——
Moxon Trio
3 Floradoras
Darby & McClester

All coms. to Harry Joseph, Pavilion Theatre, Weymouth.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Theatres.

Wanted, First-class Theatres.
Wanted, First-class Theatres.
Wanted, First-class Theatres.
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Wanted, First-class Theatres.

Jan. 24 and 31.
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"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
Production, Lyric, Hammersmith.

Wanted, First-class Theatres.
Wanted, First-class Theatres.
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"DICK WHITTINGTON."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
To follow Syndicate Halls.
To follow Syndicate Halls
To follow Syndicate Halls.

H. G. BRANDON,
Dramatic Manager, I.V.T.A.,
226, Piccadilly, W

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY.
In her latest and greatest Success,
"HOME ONCE MORE."
"HOME ONCE MORE."
"HOME ONCE MORE."

WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 27.
Vacant, Dec. 27.
Agent and printing ready.
Wire, LIONEL BALMONT,
Hippodrome, Bilston.

"A MAN'S BEST PAL."
"A MAN'S BEST PAL."
"A MAN'S BEST PAL."
"A MAN'S BEST PAL."
"A MAN'S BEST PAL."
"A MAN'S BEST PAL."

WANTED, for Dec. 27,
Dec. 27.
Dec. 27.
Wire, wire, wire,
ARTHUR HINTON,
55, Nelson-street, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

The BROS. HANAWAY

PRESENT THE REVUE

FRILLS & FANCIES

This is not a conglomeration of third-rate artistes coming on and interspersing inane remarks with a Song and Dance, but a REVUE written and produced by one of London's best producers, Mr. HAROLD BATT, producer at OXFORD, PAVILION, PALLADIUM, &c. It is played in

5 SCENES

and the Book, as written, gets laughs, which is quite a novelty in Revue. The cast includes

CICELY ESDAILE.
Bessie Benton, Harry Arthurs, Leslie Duncan,

and the

BROS. HANAWAY

followed in 15 revues at

HIPPODROME, DOVER.

Unanimous verdict public management:
BEST REVUE SEEN THERE;
NO BLUFF.

Refer management. Many thanks for offers, but still at liberty

Dec. 27. Dec. 27.

also

JAN. 10 & 17.

to follow HIPPO, STOKE.

All communications—
Reg. Wingfield, General Manager.

THIS WEEK:
HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.
Address HANAWAY.

Wire for Dec. 27.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.

"HIS CANADIAN BRIDE."
"HIS CANADIAN BRIDE."
"HIS CANADIAN BRIDE."

WANTED, Jan. 10, Jan. 10.
Wanted, Jan. 10, Jan. 10.
Wanted, Jan. 10, Jan. 10.

"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
Vacant Jan. 24, Jan. 24, Feb. 7.
Vacant Jan. 24, Jan. 24, Feb. 7.
Vacant Jan. 24, Jan. 24, Feb. 7.

No better shows on the road.

Wires, "Drama," Birmingham.
Letters, 73, Bristol-road, Birmingham.

"UP, BOYS, AND AT 'EM!"
"UP, BOYS, AND AT 'EM!"
"UP, BOYS, AND AT 'EM!"
"UP, BOYS, AND AT 'EM!"

WANTED, Wanted, Big Theatres,
Jan. 10.
Jan. 10.
Jan. 10.
Jan. 10.
Jan. 10.
Jan. 10.
Jan. 10.
The Greatest of all War Dramas.
Wire, HARRY FOXWELL. Wire,
268, Lytham-road, Blackpool.
Telegrams, "Foxwell, Blackpool."

RAY AND CALDEN'S GREATEST SUCCESS,
"FIND THE LADY."
"FIND THE LADY."
"FIND THE LADY."
"FIND THE LADY."
"FIND THE LADY."
"FIND THE LADY."

The Show of 1,000 Laughs.

WANTED, Jan. 10,
Feb. 14.

Wire or write, HARRY RAY,
this, King's, Longsight, Manchester;
next, Empire, Barnsley;
or any first-class agent.

FAWN and CARDLE'S
Revue,
"THE CHICKS' PARADE."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Theatres,
Monday next, also Jan. 3.
Monday next, also Jan. 3.

84th consecutive week of tour.

Bright, Breezy, Original.
Brim full with first-class Comedy and Good Vocalism.

Shares or Salary.
Once or twice nightly.

Wire or write,
This, Playhouse, Llanhilleth.

MESSRS. GEORGE GORDON and ALBERT RAYNER'S
Up-to-the-minute Grand Spectacular Pantomime,
"GOODY TWO SHOES."
"GOODY TWO SHOES."
"GOODY TWO SHOES."
Once or Twice Nightly.
Written and produced by Bert Rutley (Principal Theatres, Syndicate, and Gibbons' Tours).
First-class Principals. Full Chorus.
Elaborate Dresses. Scenery specially painted by F. H. Bull. Splendid plant of printing. Original and tuneful music.

WANTED, Jan. 24 (to follow Middleton). Thanks to Messrs. Dottridge, Peel, Jackson, Seebold, Seaborn, Hart, Fioni, H. C. Arnold, and others for contracts and offers.
Wire or write, GEORGE GORDON, 35, Bracebridge-street, Nuneaton.

WANTED, Dec. 27, Jan. 3, and later dates, for Frederick Mantell's Phenomenally Successful "Pocket" Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA."
The Record Breaker. New and Revised Version. Once or Twice Nightly. Specially Selected London Company, including Miss Ethel Dennison, "Cinders"; Miss Rhoda Ring, "Prince"; Mr. Bert Grey, "Page." Coms., STANLEY RUTTER, Palace Theatre, Brierley Hill, Staffs. Wire! Wire!! for this Big Holiday Attraction.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD AND CLIFFORD BOWN'S COMPANY.
WANTED, Feb. 28, March 20.
32, Church-rd., Moseley, Birmingham.

"MARY FROM TIPPERARY."
"MARY FROM TIPPERARY."
WANTED, Theatre, Jan. 3.
Unexpectedly vacant Jan. 3 (North), through breach of contract.
Unexpectedly vacant, Jan. 3 (North), through breach of contract.
Wire, MR. LODGE PERCY, 18, Electric-mansions, Electric-avenue, Brixton, S.W.
Wire, MR. LODGE PERCY, 18, Electric-mansions, Electric-avenue, Brixton, S.W.

Mr. Charles Barnard
presents
The Great Elephant and Castle Theatre Success,
"THE GIRL WHO KNEW A BIT."
"THE GIRL WHO KNEW A BIT."
"THE GIRL WHO KNEW A BIT."
"THE GIRL WHO KNEW A BIT."
"THE GIRL WHO KNEW A BIT."
"THE GIRL WHO KNEW A BIT."
By Charles Darrell.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Jan. 10 and onwards.
Jan. 10 and onwards.
Jan. 10 and onwards.
Jan. 10 and onwards.
All communications to BARNARD AND EDEN, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

C. A. STEPHENSON

PRESENTS THE FUNNIEST REVUE

"NAUGHTY, BUT NICE."

Music by STEPHEN R. PHILPOT. First-class company, including MISS VIVIAN CARTER, Operatic Soprano. Full Beauty Chorus. Splendid Dresses. Beautiful Scenery. Everything Carried.

WANTED JAN. 3rd, 10th, 17th, Theatres or Music Halls,
Midlands preferred.
THIS IS A GREAT HOLIDAY ATTRACTION. Funnier than any pantomime. Tenth month of continuous tour without a break, which is more than most Revues can say.
Booked and rebooked by Harry Day, Willie Benn, Jack Goodson, R. Warner's Agency, Leo Fritz, Adam's Agency, Sydney Burns, Egbert's Agency.
Coms. to STEPHENSON, PALACE, RUGELY, or 25, GILLESPIE CRESCENT, EDINBORO.

WILL H. GLAZE'S COMPANIES.
WILL H. GLAZE'S COMPANIES.
"HIS MOTHER'S ROSARY."
"HIS MOTHER'S ROSARY."
"HIS MOTHER'S ROSARY."
By Eva Elwes.
The greatest dramatic success touring.
The greatest dramatic success touring.
The greatest dramatic success touring.
Playing to packed houses at every performance.
Playing to packed houses at every performance.
Playing to packed houses at every performance.
Vacant, Vacant, Vacant,
Vacant, Vacant, Vacant,
Jan. 24, Jan. 31, Feb. 28.
Jan. 24, Jan. 31, Feb. 28.
Jan. 24, Jan. 31, Feb. 28.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
the Phenomenal Success,
"JOHN RAYMOND'S DAUGHTER."
"JOHN RAYMOND'S DAUGHTER."
"JOHN RAYMOND'S DAUGHTER."
By Eva Elwes.
Vacant, Vacant, Vacant,
Feb. 21, March 27, May 29.
Feb. 21, March 27, May 29.
"SUNSHINE OF PARADISE ALLEY."
"SUNSHINE OF PARADISE ALLEY."
By Eva Elwes.
Vacant, Vacant,
April 17 (Wales), April 17 (Wales).

WILL H. GLAZE, 29, Pershore-road, Birmingham, next, T.R., Aston.

"IN TIME OF WAR."
"IN TIME OF WAR."
By C. Watson Mill.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Jan. 3, 10, and 17, Feb. 7 and 14.
Jan. 3, 10, and 17, Feb. 7 and 14.
"IN TIME OF WAR."
"IN TIME OF WAR."
C. WATSON MILL, Empire Theatre, Workshop.

Personal 25 Weeks' Tour.
Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
The New and Original Irish Play,
"THE SOGGARTH AROON."
By John McLoren and Chalmers Mackey.

WANTED, No Vacant Dates.
CHALMERS MACKEY,
"Rostrevor," Poulton-le-Fylde.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 3 and 10.
Jan. 3 and 10.
Jan. 3 and 10.
"THE DREAM GIRL."
"THE DREAM GIRL."
"THE DREAM GIRL."

Apply,
MORRISON, Grand, Bolton.
Next, Hippodrome, Altrincham.

ARTISTES WANTED.

HER MAJESTY'S REPERTORY COMPANY, WALSALL.

WANTED, Good Heavy Lady for Twice nightly Stock. One piece weekly. Must be really good actress, with good appearance, dress well, and be capable of other lines. Full particulars, recent photos, and last three references, with lowest salary.
JOHN B. SHINTON,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

WANTED, Light Comedy Actress (petite or medium) for Straight Part; and Gentleman for Straight Part. ARTHUR SKELTON, Macclesfield-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, immediately, for High-class Act. Really Good Soprano.
Full particulars, last three engts., age, terms.
Box, 5,135, "The Era."

WANTED, to open Dec. 27, Lady Juvenile Lead. Young and smart, play Lead. Long engagement to suitable person. Photo, salary. CHARLES AUSTIN, New Theatre, Northampton.

WANTED, for long tour, Lady Soprano; good strong voice; able to move well in concerteds and of good appearance. Apply, with photo and lowest terms (no fancy prices), K. TOMS, "All Change Here" Revue, Hippodrome, Wrexham. Clever amateur entertained.

WANTED, at Once, Responsible Lady and Gentleman.
Quick study, used to repertoire.
Play piano, or turn preferred
Also Smart Fellow for Parts; assist baggage. Fare arranged. Age, height, photo. Terms must be low; long engagement.
Wire or write, LAUDERDALE HALL, Llanberis, North Wales.

G. CARLTON WALLACE'S CO.,
"THE ENEMY IN OUR MIDST."
"THE ENEMY IN OUR MIDST."

WANTED, First-class Comedian, Character and Responsible Gentleman, also Lady for small part; rehearse Jan. 3.
Possibly other important vacancies.

Send recent photos, terms, references, and full particulars, 25, Stanhope-gardens, Highgate, N.

"THE GIRL WHO BROKE HER MOTHER'S HEART."

WANTED, to rehearse Dec. 29, London, Gentlemen for juvenile parts for special for night. Must dress well. Photos, terms, and references, GEOFFREY FULTON, Empire Theatre, Edmonton.

WANTED, Smart Light Comedian, for revue with a voice that can be heard; also Comedienne, with a dash. Photos., &c., ROSSLYN, 2, Mornington-street, Keighley.

WANTED, Smart Man to rehearse at once, speak few lines and make himself generally useful. Wire lowest, height, to RUDDOCK, Palladium, Hartlepool.

WANTED immediately, an Actor who can play Sailor and Demon. Apply personally, F. LUCK, Stage Door, Empire, Camberwell, between 11 and 12, Wednesday.

WANTED, at once, Tall, Smart, Reliable Gent.
Must be used to comedy knockabout sketch work and ineligible for Army service.
Apply, before 12.30 in person, to
BELL, 63, Barrington-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

"BRAVE WOMEN—WHO WAIT!"
WANTED, an Actor for Good Double. Small parts, but important. Rehearse immediately. Wire,
J. C. CARLYLE, Metropole, Glasgow.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON'S TOURS.
WANTED, Man, to do fall and dive, "Sealed Orders."
Full particulars to
W. PATRICK,
New Theatre, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.

WANTED, Gentleman for Claffe and Fournier (French accent), tour "Open Windows." Commence Dec. 27. Rehearsals at once. Apply letters only, HAMILTON STEWART, Percy Hall, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road, W.C.

"A PAIR OF SILK STOCKINGS."

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen, to complete cast, to rehearse immediately in town. Must be first-class artistes, experienced in high class comedy, and gentlemen must be either not eligible for military service or in Army Reserve under Group System. The parts possibly vacant include Molly, Pamela, Bagnal, and Macinty (latter must be first-rate assistant stage-manager.
HAYMARKET BUREAU,
14, Whitcomb-street, W.C.

WANTED, through releasing, Juvenile Gent, Juvenile Lady (young), and Carpenter.
Preference given to gents of military age who are physically unfit.
Lowest terms, refs., and photos, to
J. RICE CASSIDY,
Prince's Theatre, Blackburn; next, Eastleigh.

Wanted Advertisements Continued on Col. 1, Page 37.

NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1915.

Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12; matinée on Saturday, 2.30).—Gaumont Bros., Chorley and O'Connor, W. B. Raby, Lieut. Gordon, Walter Muir and Co., pictures, and the Flying Wolkens.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (matinée on Monday, 2.30; rehearsal, 11).—Broughton and Creedon, Keystone Troupe, Mee and Leslie, Lauri Howard, Walter Graham, Burns and Bentley, and Pathé Gazette.

NORWICH HIPPODROME (matinée on Monday at 2.30; rehearsal, 11).—Harry Day presents "Business as Usual," W. H. Rowland, Westall Trio, and Pathé Gazette.

PAISLEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12; matinée on Saturday, 2.30).—Louis J. Seymour presents "Yes, I Think So" revue, pictures, Jimmy Merrylees, Gaston, and Caryl and Hyde.

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

BIRMINGHAM GAIETY (rehearsal, 12).—"The Silver Wedding," Barnes and Bawley, the Walons, Carlotta Levey, Ryde and Wynne, and Banjahra.

SMETHWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Michaeloff Russian Trio, Wee Georgie Harris, Sisters Terry, J. S. Hines, Eddie Astor, and Will Sullivan.

WEST BROMWICH NEW EMPIRE AND OPERA HOUSE (rehearsal, 12).—The Six Royal Welsh Ladies, the Omega Trio, Conway and Leland, Jack Edwin, Connie Cadis, Fannie Humber, and Foster Kershaw.

WEST BROMWICH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12).—De Vola and Rey and Wooton and Conroy.

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

BRIXTON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12).—Conrad and Zeitlin's Co., "The Million Dollar Girl," Chas. Whittle, Cooper and Lait, Society Quartette, Bioscope.

CHELSEA (rehearsal, 12).—"Stop, Look, Listen" revue, The Mandos, Dora Lyric, Armand Arba, Bioscope.

EAST HAM (rehearsal, 12). — J. Bannister Howard's pantomime, "Red Riding Hood."

EUSTON (rehearsal, 12).—De Biere, Marie Kendall, Dion Wade, Juggling Jays, Vera and Syd, Lena Lloyd, Bioscope.

LONDON PAVILION (rehearsal, 11.30).—"Honi Soit," R. G. Knowles, Riogoku Family, Frederic Norton, Leslie Glenroy, Bioscope.

METROPOLITAN (rehearsal, 12.15). — Marie Lloyd, R. G. Knowles, Femina Quartette, George D'Albert, Victor and George, Bobbie Thornton, McIvor and Scott, Lottie Lennox, Bioscope.

OXFORD (rehearsal, 12).—Marie Lloyd, Walter Bentley's revue, "Odds On," Jock McKay, Bert Errol, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Harry Webber, The Melodians, Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Day's revue, "Made in England," Femina Quartette, George D'Albert, Dan Dudley, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM (rehearsal, 2). — Harry Burns' pantomime, "The Forty Thieves."

WATFORD (rehearsal, 1). — Arthur Rigby's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.

BALHAM (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Day presents "Hullo, Everybody!" Andy Clark, Prof. Earle, Signorina Mablella, Bioscope, Gypsy Encampment.

CAMBERWELL (rehearsal, 12).—Jack and Evelyn, T. E. Dunville, Taylor's Elephants, Fred Russell, the Strakes, Violet Barti, Osnams, Edie Gray, Montmarte Quartette, pictures, Marjory Fulton.

CLAPHAM (rehearsal, 1).—"Aladdin."

CROYDON (rehearsal, 12).—Day's "Push and Go," Curtis Denley, Grace Harris, Marie Louise and Bit, Beattie Lawrie.

HAMMERSMITH (rehearsal, 1).—Ernie Mayne, Geo Mozart, Vernon Watson, Harry Ford, Violet Essex, Brinn Ristora, Alec Kendal, the De Breans, pictures, Edith Wright.

HOLBORN (rehearsal, 12).—Jack and Evelyn, Ella Shields, Nellie Wallace, F. V. St. Clair, Morny Cash, Mary Mayfren and Co., Yamagata Troupe, Dale and O'Malley, Keen and Waller, Bioscope, Zylbastrian Band.

ILFORD (rehearsal, 12).—Sam Mayo, Maidie Scott, Ko Ten Ichi Troupe, Ilott Trio, Tambo and Tambo, Carl Hertz, Helen Charles, pictures.

ISLINGTON (rehearsal, 1).—Dawe and Taylor presents "Cheer Up!" Eddy Martin, Bi Bo Bi, Isa Wise, pictures, Alanson.

KILBURN (rehearsal, 1).—"Goody Two Shoes."

LEWISHAM (rehearsal, 12).—F. Laidman and Co. in "Dick Whittington."

PALLADIUM (rehearsal 11.30).—Maidie Scott, Harry Weldon, Nella Webb, Ernie Mayne, Ernest Hastings, Five Bombays, M. M. Duprez, Bioscope, Campbell Brady, Coram, Geo. Mozart, Bransby Williams.

POPLAR (rehearsal, 1).—"It'll Tickle!" Joe Elvin and Co. "Including Costs," Burnetti, Alanson, Dolly Varden, pictures, Karno's "Mustard and Cress."

PUTNEY (rehearsal, 12.30).—Reeves' "High Explosives," Hunt and Thomas, Alec Kennedy, Bioscope, Elsie Kerr.

ROTHERHITHE (rehearsal, 1). — Espinosa's "S'Nice," Joe Elvin and Co. "Including Costs," Violet Lester, Waltina, pictures.

SHOREDITCH (rehearsal, 12.30).—Ella Shields, Bransby Williams, Sam Mayo, Rose Cambry, Leslie Bros., E. H. Mill, Beaumont Collins and Co., Rosalie Hamilton, pictures, Mart and Pep.

WILLESDEN (rehearsal, 12.30).—Lew Lake's revue, Baker and Baife, Eva McDonald, Geo. Collins, pictures.

WOOLWICH (rehearsal, 12).—Rameses, T. E. Dunville, McNaughtons, Howard and Collinson, Bert Terrell, Tom Leamore, A Ba Be, Park's Eton Boys, Madge Morley and Co., Bioscope.

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

BLACKBURN.—Pictures, Otto Viola Bros., Bowyer and Westwood, Cissie Lupino, Willie, West and Crossley, Vivian Foster, Cyclery Buffoons, Monty Walker.

BRADFORD. — Pictures, Record Quartette, Florence Bostock, Emeric and Ainslie, Stuart Lomath and Co., Bell Bros., "The Slacker," Billy Marsden."

BURNLEY.—Pictures, Rosellie and Clifford, and Co. as booked.

CARLISLE. — Pictures, Athas and Collins, Eugene Garsdini, Empire Opera Singers, The Sakuras, "Borstal Boy," Charles Hatch, Hamilton and McNab, Florence Cooper.

HALIFAX.—Pictures, Ronald George, Four Bachelors, Briff, Braff and Broff, Van Dock, Ella Moore, "William 'Enery's Wedding," Two Lillys.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Pictures, Royce, Babs, and Royce, Anna Hana, Bert Lloyd and Co., Tom Barr, Bernard Ash Quartette, Mozettos, Charles Morritt.

LEICESTER.—Pictures, Gaston Morell, Levard and Assistants, The Rangers, Lion and Seal, Arthur Haynes, Vladimir Brodo, and company as booked.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Pictures, Billy French, Harmony Four, Halma, Soho Trio, Hugh Hughes, Hall and Turn, Chas. F. Hill.

SOUTHPORT.—Pictures, Patti Loftus, Ford and Manson, McLean Twins, The Arnolds, Rich Taylor, "Comrades in Arms," Bryant and Bryant.

WARRINGTON.—Pictures, Four Its, Doraswami, George Ross, Four Sisters Ruby, "Listing for a Soldier," Four Shades, Arthur Verno.

Bradford bars Shipley.

Blackburn bars Darwen and Accrington.

Burnley bars Nelson, Accrington and Colne.

Warrington bars Earlstown and Widnes.

Southampton bars Eastleigh.

Rehearsals at Burnley and Bradford, 11 o'clock; all other halls, 12 o'clock.

MOSS EMPIRES.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"The Concealed Bed," Vardell Bros., Chas Mildare, Harry Herbert, Lotto, Lilo and Otto, Little Freddie Hackin.

BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Romanesca Quartette, Five Wartons, Conway and Darrell, Christie Duo.

BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Four Renees, The Great Cyril, Gyto.

BRADFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1). — Terrias and Romaine, Jack Lorimer, Stella Stahl.

CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Rinaldo, the Harlequinaders, Ted Hopkin, Three Merrills, Joe and Willy, Dandy George.

CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12).—Oxford Quartette, Arthur Brittain, Horace R. Wells, Una Kingston.

EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Seven Perezoffs, Barry Rayne, Costa and George.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Six Ceylons, Will Van Allen, Maggie Benson, Chas. Ulrick.

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Four Royal Scots, Irene Millar.

HULL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Tom Jones, Will Tyler, Three Diamonds.

LIVERPOOL OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 11). — The Grand Circus.

LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—"Joy-Land."

NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Frank Le Dent, New Macs.

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Carron Troupe, Little Ena Dayne, Wynn and Winter.

NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Clown Barker, Fields and Coco, George Newburn.

NOTTINGHAM GRAND THEATRE.—"Cinderella."

SHEFFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Victoria Monks, Zakaree Ermakov, O'Gorman Bros.

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—De Marest, Lilian Carter, Kioto Trio, "Have a Guess."

STOKE NEWINGTON ALEXANDRA THEATRE (rehearsal, 11.30; matinées, Monday, Thursday and Saturday, 2.30).—Elsa De Sylva, Arthur Page.

STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Grumbliers, Dolly Victoria Troupe, Mazuz and Mazette, Hengler Bros.

SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Jackson Potter, Dju Sen.

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Pasquali Brothers, Carlos Menard, Maurice, "Look Out!"

WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Martini Trio, Wilfred Burnand, Duley and Thompson, "Tit-bits."

STOLL TOUR.

ARDWICK GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—The Diving Belles, Brooklyn Comedy Four, Les Trombetta, Emilie Hayes, Speedwell, Samaroff and Sonia, Miss Cashmore, and Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—The Seibinis, Warsaw Brothers, the Flying Mars, Janet Alexander and Lauderdale Maitland, Harry Hudson, Amos Howard, Dorothy Grey, and Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—Ida Long, the Goodalls, the Villions, and Bioscope.

CHISWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Mlle Doria, Edith Fink, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Barnes, George Lashwood, Cole de Losse, May Sherrard, the Junes, Adam Tomlinson, and Bioscope.

HACKNEY EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Albert Foster, O'Hanlon and Rivkin, and Bioscope.

LEICESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Arthur Lewis, Naval Quartette, the Avolos, Violet Grey, Radford and Valentine, the Diving Norins, Viviana's Toyshop, and Bioscope.

LONDON COLISEUM (rehearsal, 10).—Seymour Hicks and Isobel Elsom in "The Bridal Suite," Yorke and Leonard, Alfred Lester in "Simpson's Stores," Julien Henry, Elliott Savonas, Du Cation, Manny and Roberts, Johnson Clark, "Russia, 1915," and Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 10).—"5064 Gerrard."

THE NEW MIDDLESEX (rehearsal, 11).—"She's a Daisy," Reece Duo, Auber, George E. Rymer, and Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Sadie Lloyd, Six Bros. Luck, Frederick Sylvester, Murphy and Mack, the Aberdares, Bert Lytton, Bioscope, and Helen Moray.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Wells and Mayban, Manny and Roberts, Norman Payne, and Bioscope.

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO.

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—"Ladies First," Monty McVean, Mexican Wonders, Dennisons, pictures.

BRADFORD ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12).—Oswald Williams, Lily Lena, "The Charladies," Paul Witte and Teddie Butt Harry Leybourne, Larola, pictures.

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Albert Chevalier, Mark Sheridan, Wilson Hallett, Speesel Bros. and Mack, Zelinda Davis, Les Andres, Miller and St. Juste, Ruby De Fontenoy, pictures.

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12).—"The Passing Show."

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Florrie Forde's pantomime, "Jack and Jill."

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Aladdin."

MANCHESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 11, Monday matinée).—"The Only Girl."

MARGATE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2.30).—Company as booked.

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—"Honeymoon Express," Maggie Clifton and Partner, affa, Mohamed Labas, pictures.

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11, Monday matinée).—Neil Kenyon, "Mumming Birds," John C. Glass, Cooper Mitchell, Lucille Benstead, the Magleys.

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11, Monday matinée).—"Merry Moments," Guest and Newlyn, Van Dammes, Katie Butler, picturts.

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"The Radium Girl," Talbot and Pearce, Fredrica's Terriers, pictures.

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 10.30, Monday matinée).—"This is the Life," Jacksof, Alexandre.

WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Don't Crush," and company as booked.

ALBANY WARD CIRCUIT.

CHIPPENHAM PALACE.—The Sisters Petites.

EXMOUTH PUBLIC HALL THEATRE.—The Dental Riskits and Assistant and Dorothea Pinhoe.

FROME PALACE.—Chester and Lee's Pantoche Co.

GUERNSEY THEATRE ST. JULIANS.—Jack Francis and company as booked.

MIDSOMER NORTON PALLADIUM.—Cyril Slivern.

PORTLAND EASTON PALACE.—Lily and Dolly.

PORTLAND MASONIC HALL.—Lily and Dolly.

RADSTOCK PALACE.—The Two Winnies.

SALISBURY NEW THEATRE.—"The Lady Slavey" Co.

SALISBURY PALACE.—The Black Diamonds, Wylie, Eddie and Eva, the Nippers, and the Four Merry Demons.

TREHARRIS PALACE.—Lilian and Gracie and Tiny Tim.

TROWBRIDGE PALACE. — Newman and Wynne in "'Arf a Quid," and Ivy Rainsford.

WARMINSTER PALACE.—John Tom and the Babe and Florence Kendall.

WEYMOUTH PALLADIUM.—Constance Willis.

YEOVIL PALACE.—The Glovers, Rovilli, and George Williams.

Band rehearsals at each place at 1 o'clock, except Weymouth, at 12.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 10; special matinée, Boxing Day, 2.30).—Francis and Alfred, the Annytos, Christine Silver and Co., in "Doorsteps," Sylvene and Florence, the Dugardes, the Craggs, Roya and Rejane, and Hippodrome Pictorial Chronicle.

ALDERSHOT, ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30).—The Sisters Garnet, the Travis Trio, the Gerards, the Churchills, Lulu Gray, Little Hatch, Florence Jones, Pat Nolan, Maeie Rose, Jack Elton, Edith Wright, Doris and Arthur, the Lancashire Trio, and Ailene Bowerman.

ASHINGTON MINERS' THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Mind Your Eye" Co.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Betty Barclay and Baritone, Tom E. Hughes, Kay and Aeroplane, Bryden and Wilson, Peter, Peggie, and Pearl, and Jenkins Bros.

AYR PAVILION (rehearsal, 1). — Ridiculous Recco, Flo Burnett, Red, White and Blue Trio, A. E. Burtie, Hayman and Lowe, Bertram Yeovil and Frou-Frou.

BARNSLEY ALHAMBRA THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Wee Georgie Wood, Three Brothers Huxter, Cosgrove and Burns, Lily Denville, Thora, Lawrence Barclay, Ackroyd Melita Trio.

BATLEY HIPPODROME.—Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Whitty's repertoire company.

BELFAST EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Revue, "The Runaway Jap."

CHESTER ROYALTY THEATRE.—The Two Selaurs, W. P. Wentley, J. Le Dair, Doris Pearce, Harry Luck, Charles Capper, and Amor and Roma.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.—"Hullo Coventry," Harry Grey, and Olive Armadale.

DUBLIN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Barney Armstrong's pantomime, "Cinderella."

DUDLEY OPERA HOUSE (rehearsal, 10.30).—"Florodora."

EDINBURGH, PRINGLE'S PALACE.—Lena and Chrissie, Braddy Shaw, and La Razcka Trio.

EDINBURGH THEATRE ROYAL (rehearsal, 12).—Messrs. Howard and Wyndham's pantomime, "Little Boy Blue."

FELIXSTOWE PLAYHOUSE (rehearsal, 11).—Webb and Branston, Austin and Lawton, pictures.

GLASGOW PAVILION (rehearsal, 11).—Mr. Harry McKelvie's pantomime, "Mother Goose."

GUILDFORD THEATRE ROYAL.—Bannister Howard's "Jack the Giantkiller."

HARTLEPOOL PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 1).—H. F. Cornforth's Co., "Sinbad the Sailor."

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 10; special matinée Boxing Day, 2.30).—Brothers Webb, Evelyn May and Sister, Brandon and Brand, Jack Barlow, Barnard Family, J. Collins' revue, "Sign, Please," and Empire Pictorial Chronicle. Friday, Dec. 31, grand flying matinée, Miss Irene Vanbrugh and Co.

LEITH (EDINBURGH) ALHAMBRA.—Pat Casey, Eight Sports, Pearls of Music, Rich and Russell, the Two Taits, Three Lascelles, Wilfred St. Clair, and Bert Williams.

LONDON. — GOLDERS GREEN HIPPODROME.—Vernon Watson, Nellie Wallace, Mooney and Holbein, the Majors, Jock Whiteford, Bioscope, Syd May, Orpheus, the Three Mahers, Belle Davis and Plocs.

LONDON.—GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN (rehearsal, 2).—The Courtiers, Frederic Baugh presents "The Heart of a Jew," Ina Lorimer, Gulliver, the Westbrooks, Biddy Doyle, Cole and Rags, Phil Parsons, and Granville Bioscope.

LONDON.—PALACE.—Bric-a-Brac, Albert Whelan, Phil and Phlora, and Lily Hayes.

LONDON, QUEEN'S, POPLAR (rehearsal, 12).—Scott and Whaley, Two Rascals and Jacobson, Jen Latona, Morny Cash, Four Casinos, Phil Bransby, Pathé Gazette, the Fan-Jacks, and Lucy Coventry.

LONDON.—SURREY THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Fred Keeton, Georgina Berry, Shassin Houssein Co., Mooney and Holbein, Gus Harris, Terry Twins, Florence Yaymen, Sam Springson and Co., and Eight College Girls.

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MIDDLESBROUGH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Hanlon Carls Troupe, Captain Kelly, and company booked.

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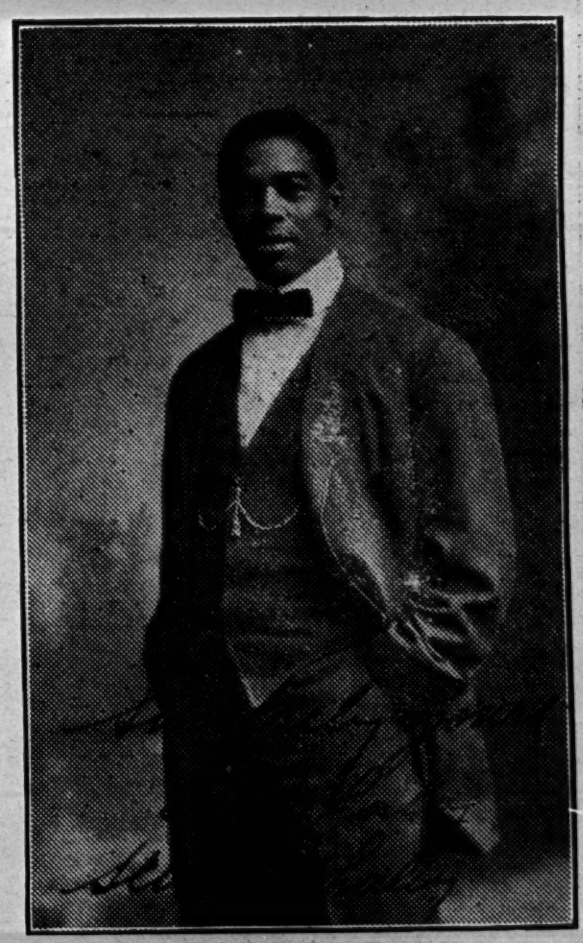

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Booked at every PRINCIPAL HALL in the UNITED KINGDOM, including MOSS' EMPIRES, GULLIVER CIRCUIT, MACNAGHTEN and BROADHEAD'S.
Appeared at HOLBORN ONE WEEK.
Secured by Mr. Chas. Gulliver till 1918, also by COLLINS', LONDON, till 1920.
A NOVELTY of 1915.
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The Act that contains—

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EVERY TOUR AND HALL OF NOTE.

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Now appearing in Walter Bentley's Revue, "ODDS ON."

Wish to thank all Proprietors and Managers for postponing dates to allow them to appear in the successful production, including Mr. Ernest Wighton, Mr. Chas. Gulliver, Mr. Leon Zeitlin, Mr. J. P. Mitchellhill, Mr. Wm. Turner, Mr. A. Parnell, Mr. M. Ballantine, Mr. Fred Willmott, and Mr. Wm. Sley.

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BRITAIN'S PREMIER HEBREW COMEDIAN.

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A Comedian who can sing a Ballad as well as a Comic Song.

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Juvenile Lead.

Specially engaged by Walter Bentley for Run of Revue,
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Just completed the Controlling Tour.
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Fully booked by MOSS' EMPIRES. STOLL TOUR.
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First seen by Walter Bentley at Hengler's Circus, London, in 1903, and he is still our SOLE AGENT. Nothing to grumble about
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Wanted, a few dates—Provinces only.
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"ALL NONSENSE"

HAROLD as Ricketts the Count

ROLANDO as Trotter the Father of 7

Don't Miss Count of the Father of 7

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Principal Comedian

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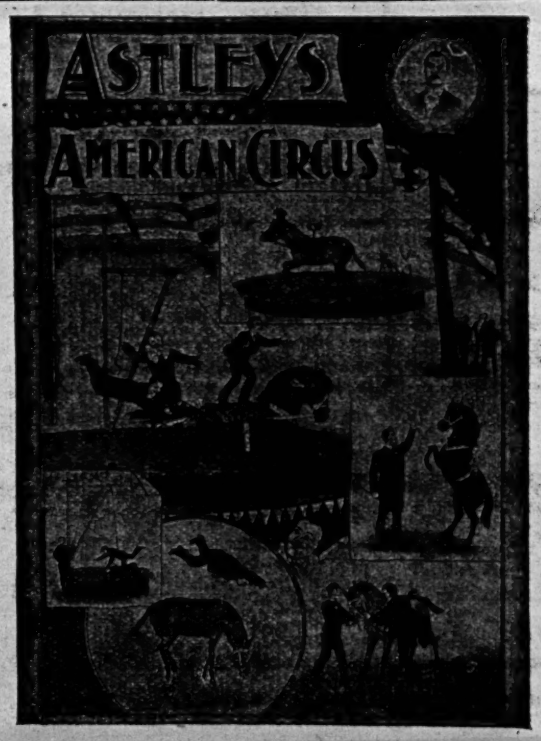

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BRIGHT AND BREEZY, REVUE.
THE BEAUTY SPOT, REVUE.
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FOLLOW ME, REVUE.
GOING STRONG, REVUE.
TIT-BITS, REVUE.
MISS FITS, REVUE.
ROSES, REVUE.
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PROVINCIAL NEWS.

ABERDEEN.

H.M. THEATRE.—P., The Robert Arthur Theatres Co.; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. Tom B. Davis' pantomime, "Aladdin." The cast includes: Messrs. Harry Spawton, George Rapley, Albert Hayzen, Rex Kempton, Strafford Moss, Hyde and Hylton, Misses Carda Walker, Ethel Joyce, Connie Clive, Daisy Bannerjee, Adele Garnham, Rosa Vidal, Mabel Isabelle, N. Anderson, Lallie Bray, Phyllis Horseley, Adele Bernard, Dorothy Edwards, Betty Hall, Ena Robin, &c., the Eight Merry Macs, dancers.

TIVOLI.—P., Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The John Riding Opera Co. in répertoire. Cast includes: Misses Jeanne Jeune, Mabel Dennis, Messrs. John Riding, W. O'Connor, Michael Kemble, &c. Other turns: Violet Stockelle, comedienne; the Piquays, sand dancers; Larry Lewis, comedian; Prince Kuroki, Japanese illusionist; Barnard Family in "Dolls Alive," and pictures.

PALACE.—P., Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; A. M., Mr. F. Lawson Clark.—Mr. Harry McKelvie's pantomime, "Dick Whittington." Cast includes: Misses Dora Sefton, Lily Hartely, Gladys Carmylle, Lucie Victor, Messrs. G. A. Perry, E. M. Cooke, Steve Knoto, James Stephens, Geo. Westland, J. B. Preston, etc.

Boots, The Chemists, 141, Union-street.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; R. M., Mr. Fred W. Green.—This week this theatre is closed, reopens on Friday with Messrs. H. Flockton Foster and Donald Gilbert's company in "The Ideals," a rhapsody of mirth and music.

NEW HIPPODROME.—G. M., Mr. J. T. Sutcliffe.—This week: "The Clue," a story of Western life in America; the Caron Troupe, Continental acrobats; Barnard and Bunny, comedy act; Bert Bowden, comedian; and pictures. On Christmas Day the While-Aways, a popular local company of amateurs, will appear.

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ARBROATH.

PALACE THEATRE.—Syd Herman's Merry-Makers; La Belle Hedita; and pictures.

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ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

EMPIRE, HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; D. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; R. A. M., Mr. J. Boyle; Mus. D., Mr. Harry O'Callaghan.—The revue, "Violet and Pink"; Sims and Hurste; J. H. Ellis, comedian; Zella, Vondi and Co.; Bobbie Thornton; and pictures.

NEW PICTURE PAVILION.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; D. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; R. A. M., Mr Arthur Downes; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Coleman.—Marius Low presents "The Palace of Obis"; and pictures.

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AYR.

NEW PAVILION.—L. and M., Mr. Ben Popplewell.—Florrie Forde and Gilbert Payne present their pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood," once nightly. The principal parts are sustained by Marion Scott, Flora Carlton and Leslie Lynn.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

TIVOLI.—L. and M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Emilius Hill.—The Futani Troupe; Cole Cliffe; Vera Caine; Barlow and Brooks; Wilson and Ernie; Leonard and Stevens; Molly Baldwin; the 3 Poppescus; and pictures.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Arthur Carlton, J.P.; R. M., Mrs. George Munro.—The new comic opera, "The Idol of Kano," was produced here on Monday.

PALACE.—R. D., Mr. W. S. Pearse.—Miss Dorothy Varick, lady entertainer, in character sketches; Fred Rome, assisted by Miss Rene Haslam, in humorist duolettes; Manek Shah, necromancer; Sid Crossley, the long comic; Frank and Violet Shelley, in "Also Ran"; Nancie Vivien, chorus vocalist and comedienne; Harold Heath, celebrated speciality dancer; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 21-22, Union-street; 56, Southgate-street.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Charles Draycott.—J. W. Turner's Opera Company: Monday, "Bohemian Girl"; Tuesday, "Il Trovatore"; Wednesday, "Satanella"; Thursday, "Rigoletto"; Friday, "Maritana."

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. E. Hamilton Jordan.—Closed preparatory to the production of "The Babes in the Wood" on Boxing Day.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. John Keating.—This week, a capital combination, comprising the Mikado Family, clever Japanese acrobats; Mr. J. G. Grahame and Miss Zerlina Harrington in "A Daughter of Pleasure"; Sam Stern, American comedian; the Society Quartette of Vaudeville artistes; Fred Elton, comedian; Miss Marjorie Fulton, comedienne; Will Lesby, character comedian; the Westwoods; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Frank Weston.—Closed preparatory to the production of "Dick Whittington" on Boxing Day.

Boots, The Chemists, 239-241, Grange-road.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Tom B. Davis and Philip Rodway; M. D., Mr. Harry Rushworth.—Closed, pantomime rehearsals.

PRINCE OF WALES.—P., Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. J. F. Graham and John Hart; B. M., Mr. W. J. Andrews. — Closed. Preparations for new musical comedy.

ALEXANDRA.—P., Mr. Leon Salberg; A. M., Mr. W. C. Guest; M. D., Mr. Herbert Barnes.—Closed, pantomime rehearsals.

BORDESLEY PALACE. — P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.—Closed, pantomime rehearsals.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL. — L., Mr. Chas. Barnard; M., Mr. Lewis Chapman.—Closed until Boxing Day.

GRAND.— P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Crossley Taylor; M. D., Mr. Chas. Bye.—Twice nightly: "Don't Crush" revue has paid more visits to Birmingham and district than any revue on the road, and it is great compliment to the producers and performers that it should be chosen as the Christmas week attraction at the Grand Theatre. Jack Gallagher, as leading comedian, has made a name for himself in "Don't Crush"; He is a natural comedian, blessed with resourcefulness which enables him to adapt his work to any audience. In the comedy line Fanny Wallace also plays a prominent part, and warm praise is also due to Sid Dee, Ken Barton, Gus Davis, Lillie Ansell, Betty Hay, and Will Raynor. Others on the programme are Billy French, a light comedian who dances well; Matthew Boulton and Co., in a comedy episode entitled "His Rest Day"; and Foot-Gers, Anglo-French comedian, in selections from his repertoire.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Walter Bellain; M. D., Mr. J. Clegg. — Liane D'Eve is a big favourite here. Another attraction is entitled "Hallo, Brum," for which the C.D.P. Productions, Ltd., are responsible. In the cast are Harry Huley, Gertrude Newson, Helen Cozens, W. K. Maynard, Leonard Russell, and Frederick Lytton. The Four Royal Scots, in a clever voca, instrumental, and dancing act, foot the bill.

ASTON HIPPODROME. — P., Aston Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. S. T. Newsome; A. M., Mr. J. F. Coward; Mus. D., Mr. H. Jackson.—Dick Ray presents "The Devonshire Girl," artistes featuring being Cyril Dunn, Phil Philips, Bert Gunnell, Rene Fields, and Emmelie Shepherd. The bill is completed by the Four Shades, vocalists; Walter Gray, juggler; and Billy Fander, rame comedian.

GAIETY.—P., Mr. B. Kennedy; A. M., Mr. W. H. Hebden.—Mr. George Sax introduces his coloured revue, "Coloured Society," in which there appears Creole performers. It is a quaint and attractive show. Others engaged are Jack Sands, comedian; and the Five Aintrees, in a novel vocal and dancing scena.

Boots, The Chemists, 52, New-street; 167, Broad-street; 100-101, Smallbrook-street; 266, 288, Gooch street; 171, Bloomsbury-street; 459, Moseley-road; Colmore-row and Bull-street.

BLACKPOOL.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. G. H. Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller.—Miss Florrie Forde's pantomime, "Jack and Jill."

Boots, The Chemists, 14, Market-street, Church-street, and Station-road, South Shore.

BLYTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. G. Black; R. M., Mr. Bert Proud.—Augmenting a good picture programme, the following artistes are appearing here:—The Harvard Sixteen, in vocal and dancing act; Harry Moore, in a smart paper-tearing act; the Velloges, in their novelty musical act.

Boots, The Chemists, 33, Waterloo-road.

BOLTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., the Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; D. M., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. A. M. Booth.—Joe Morrison presents "The Dream Girl"; M. Labas; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 29-31, Knowsley-street; 139, Derby-street.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. John Hart; M., Mr. James Richardson.—Mr. T. G. Bailey and Miss Ella Thornton in "Jenny Omroyd." The company includes: Mr. Escott Robson, Mr. J. P. McBride, Mr. J. Nelson Turner, Mr. T. G. Bailey, Miss Alice Inman, Miss Edith Panting, Miss Eve Moore, Miss Bettie Hewitt, Miss Nora Temple, Miss Ella Thornton.

ALHAMBRA.—M. D., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. Philip A. Lennon.—Mr. Jean Fabert presents "Le Moulin Rouge" revue; Ost, siffleur; Gaby Revette; and pictures.

PALACE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Albert Bowyer and Olive Westwood; Ida Re'Nita; Fred Gamble, comedian; Marquis de Gonza and Lady; Winnie Scaman; P. J. Gillen; and pictures.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. Percy Craig.—Messrs. Blow and Collins present "Beauties"; Tom Jones, comedian; Belle Davis and her Crackerjacks; Sammy Shields; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 60-62, Kirkgate.

BRISTOL.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; R. M., Mr. Fortescue Harrison; Asst. M., Mr. Edward Fryer; Mus. D., Mr. Heward W. Galpin.—Jack and Evelyn, in their vaudeville tit-bit, entitled "Carrying On"; the Elliott-Savonas, in their fine musical entertainment, "The Palace of Orpheus"; Manny and Roberts, "the messenger boys from Broadway," in a smart speciality; Eddie Howard, in a clever tumbling act; Miss Cashmore, in a sporting act, "The Limit of Animal Training," assisted by Joseph Craston; the Dublin Desmonds, in Irish song, story, and dance; Thornley Dodge, in studies, skits, and sketches; and Eric Godley, baritone vocalist. Pictures complete.

EMPIRE.—L. & M., Mr. Sid Macaire; Mus. D., Mr. Bert Hunter.—May Yates and Private Fred Edwards (30th Royal Fusiliers), are presenting the comedy sketch, "Kleptomaniacs," with much success. Other attractions include Walter Williams, light comedian; the Sisters Macarte, novelty wire artistes; Dene and Benny, comedy artistes; Vera and Syd, juvenile artistes; McDonald and Payne, in "An Irishman's Transformation"; Reg. Amber, comedian; and Cristo and Renee, comedy jugglers. Interesting pictures, "Topical Gazette," conclude.

Boots, The Chemists, 13, Queen's-road, Clifton; 126, High-street.

BURNLEY.

EMPIRE.—P., Victoria Opera House, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. C. Homer.—Arthur Ferriss; Master James Garnett; Chester and Dottridge; Wyn Gerrard and her Dancer; Susie Marney; the Randys; Ragolio, the R.A. Tramp; and pictures.

PALACE.—P., the Palace Theatre and Hippodrome, Burnley, Ltd.; G. M., The Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; M., Mr. J. Rintoul.—The Five Symphony Girls; Otto Viola; Jackson Potter; Hugh Hughes; the Wedburns; the Four Its; Doraswami, musician; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 90, St. James's-street.

CASTLEFORD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P.'s, Messrs. Chas. Gadsby and Sons; L., Mr. Chas. Gadsby; B. M., Cr. Hy. Masterman, J.P.—Miss Mary Austin and Co. in "The Woman Pays—Back."

QUEEN'S VARIETIES.—P.'s, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Will H. Emerson.—Hasting and Sydney Lynn, in a dramatic sketch, "The Awakening"; Evelyn May, violinist; J. H. Scotland, comedy; Allen and Gibbs, comedy; Betty Butters and the Boob, chorus songs; and Miller-Sutcliffe.

COLCHESTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Hippodrome, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Ben de Frece.—Messrs. F. and H. Reeves present "High Explosives"; Bessie Slaughter; and the Great Wieland.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Mr. Albert James Clamp; A. M., Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Chas. Macdona's company in "Niobe."

Boots, The Chemsts, 48, Long Wyre-street.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—M., Mr. Frank J. Pitt.—The George Edwardes Co. in "Betty."

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. G. E. Prance.—T. Elder Hearn, quick-change artiste; Vera Moore, vocalist; Zasma, Society gymnasts; Terris and Romaine, instrumentalists; G. H. Melvin, comedian; and the Comedy Meisters.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week closed, re-opening Dec. 27, Macdonald and Young's company, "The Marriage Market."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and Geo. E. Smith; G. M. Mr. Geo. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—This week, Magini, violin virtuoso; Webb and Roberts, comediennes; Harry Rayne, entertainer; Grace Bros., kings of the perch; Geo. Lawrence, comedian; Roland Carter and Co., in "Vacation Time"; the Four Hanlon-Charles, aerial gymnasts; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 38, Market-place.

DONCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North.—Mr. Joseph Millane's company presents "The Confessions of a Wife."

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North.—John McNally presents the comedy sketch, "The Borstal Boy"; Mona Warwick, the dainty little star; the Five Jovers, Spanish gymnasts and acrobats; Frank H. Fox, in "The Punch and Judy Man"; Murray Leonard, in comedy sketch, "The Fool"; Adkin, motoring ventriloquist; and the Miles-Stavordale Quintette, "songs without words," "voices on strings."

Boots, The Chemists, 71, Frenchgate.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. L. W. Winter; M., Mr. P. Howard Sturgess; Mus. C., Mr. C. C. Hill.—The Big Feature Syndicate are presenting the revue, "Spots."

KING'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. Harry Day.—Harry O'Byrne, Irish vocalist, and pictures.

PALACE THEATRE.—M., Mr. Charles Bradford.—Ryltie Reid, comedian and dancer.

Boots, The Chemists, 11, Cannon-street.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. C. Hyland.—Closed for rehearsals of "Dick Whittington."

THEATRE ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. J. H. Hamilton.—"Chutney" is produced here this week by the Six Brothers Luck. The company is a strong one, and includes the Misses Pearl Lytton and Jessie Leo, Messrs. Harry Rennior, Fred. A. Ellis, Frank Irwin, and Frank Wood; also Amber Stone, and the Two Montez and Six Sapphires Troupe, principal dancer Mlle. Lillian Le Noir. In addition, we have the Rafter Bros., musical entertainers; and Favdonova, in classical dances.

COLISEUM THEATRE.—M., Mr. Geo. H. Marsh; Asst. M., Mr. Mat C. Byrne.—An all-star variety bill is submitted here this week, headed by Giordano, in novel illusions, spiritualism, and hypnotism; and the Quaint Q's, a highly artistic vocal quartette. Also on the bill are the Hartley Wonders, in a unique jumping speciality act; and Pierce and Roslyn, in a whirl of melody; Maggie Walsh, the original singing mill girl; Albert Rees, entertainer at the piano; Oma Bros., speciality artistes; and Bailey and Grant, an amusing comedy duo, complete.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., Mr. B. Armstrong; M., Mr. A. Armstrong.—Closed next week for rehearsals of "Cinderella."

TIVOLI THEATRE.—M., Mr. C. Jones.—Topping the bill here we have an old Dublin favourite, Mr. Horace Wheatley, in song and story; also Messrs. A. Bellmore, Howie and Co. in a Scotch comedy sketch, "A Sabbath Weel Spent"; Tom Franks, ventriloquist; the Darwoods, musical comedians; Loch and Lomond, novelty couple, in songs and dances; Lola Morris, comedienne; Victor Wakeman, mimic and humorist; and pictures.

CONNOR'S CIRCUS, ROTUNDA RINK.—Mr. Connor is to be congratulated on the wonderful success attending his circus at the Rotunda Rink, the building being crowded at each performance. A feature of the show is the daring equestrian feats of Miss Mona Connor.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Licensee & M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. H. W. Ramsay; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. Loseby.—The popularity of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, which opened a fortnight's engagement here on Monday, was evidenced by the huge and appreciative audience which assembled to witness "The Gondoliers." Miss Phyllis Smith as Gianetta acted brightly and treated her music in a thoroughly artistic manner; Miss Nellie Briercliffe was a delightfully vivacious Tessa, her sprightly acting, pleasing singing, and graceful dancing combining to make a particularly attractive performance. Miss Bertha Lewis must be congratulated on her cultured rendering of the music allotted to the Duchess of Plaza Toro; Miss Elsie McDermid made an attractive and graceful Casilda; Mr. Fred Billington's Grand Inquisitor was, as usual, a treat, the grimaces, the easy nonchalance, and the inimitable method of his singing being admirable. Mr. Henry A. Lytton, as the Duke of Plaza Toro, was brilliant throughout, his dancing and singing combining most happily for the amusement of the audience; Mr. Dewey Gibson, as Marco, sang tunefully; Mr. Leicester Tunks was an admirable Guiseppe, his perfect articulation being a feature of his singing; Mr. Frederick Hobbs, as Luiz, sang well; and praise is also due to the chorus, which was notably bright and tuneful. The week's bill also includes: "Iolanthe," "The Mikado," "Trial by Jury" followed by "H.M.S. Pinafore," "Patience," and "The Yeomen of the Guard."

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. R. & J. Pennycook; M., Mr. Robt. Pennycook; Mus. D., Miss Cameron.—J. M. Hamilton, the famous Scottish tenor, and Nellie McNab, a favourite Scottish soprano, present a new song-scena, entitled "The Auld Scotch Sangs," a real musical treat to lovers of good music. Pictures complete.

QUEEN'S.—P., Mr. Arthur Henderson.—The Selbins, in their pot-pourri act; Little Harry Fray, the miniature chocolate coloured coon; Price and Wingard, comedy harmony duo; and pictures make up the bill here.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh.—The Mearns Trio, vocalists and new style dancers, supplement a strong picture programme here.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Mackay and Binnell.—Cissie Langley's company are appearing here with much acceptance in several sketches. Pictures complete.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Joe Bell.—The Pertab Sinjh and Zenia company appear in their weird, mystic, and funny act, some of their tricks being of an amazing order. Pictures complete.

Boots, The Chemists, 14, Reform-street.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L. & M., Messrs. Murray King and Clark; M. D., Mr. T. Emmerson.—Messrs. King and Clark's pantomime, "Aladdin," is to be produced on Boxing Day.

PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. George Hayes; Mus. D., Mr. E. Peiigen.—Mr. Frank Carlton, war correspondent, in "The War in Picture and Story."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—Novelty Production Company in "Frills and Fancies." Cast includes Miss Cicely Esdaile and Mr. Leslie Duncan.

WINTER GARDEN, DEVONSHIRE PARK.—S. & M., Mr. E. A. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. Norfolk Megone.—Daily concerts, with Miss Gwen Grosvenor as vocalist.

Boots, The Chemists, 14-16, Sussex-gardens; 6, Seaside.

EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE. — M. D.'s, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. P. L. Howat; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—A delightful entertainment has been secured by the management here for the Christmas and New Year in "The Light Blues," with which Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company began an engagement on Monday last. The piece contains several tuneful numbers, and it has the advantage of being played by an exceptionally clever cast. Miss Cicely Courtneidge's dainty, graceful style of acting and sweet voice fit well into the part of Cynthia Petrie, and Miss Dorothy Jay is a charming Lady Peggy. Miss Hilda Vining hits off with characteristic animation the rôle of Topsy Devigne, a variety artiste, and there are other neat sketches given by the ladies of the company. Mr. Edmund Gwenn brings to bear upon his impersonation of Joe Brooks that grasp of intelligent interpretation of character and humour which marks all his work; and the acting of Mr. Jack Hulbert as Arthur Hobbs, Mr. Rex London as Gundy (a college gyp), Mr. H. Nelson Hancock as the Duke of Dorchester, and Mr. George Beckett as Clive Brooke add to the general effect of the representation. The chorus is composed of fresh young voices, and the numbers are effectively sung under the direction of Mr. Arthur E. Godfrey, the orchestral conductor. The piece is beautifully mounted.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires' Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. T. Aynsley Cook; Mus. D., Mr. James Howarth.—Fred Karno presents here his "All Women Revue; All Eves—in Five Temperaments." The Sisters Sprightly fill the leading rôles of Peggy and Suzanne quite charmingly, and are ably assisted by Lennie Hill, Gracie Vicat, Audrey Stafford, Lucy Clements, and Frankie Carlos; with the further strong support of a platoon of the Women's War Work Emergency Corps, who strenuously perform the work of mere men in various capacities. Moreover, Miss Jackie Melville is manageress, the stage manageress is Miss Irene Marsten, and Miss Emmie Thomas directs the orchestra, while the production is personally supervised by the author, and, under these favourable auspices, achieves immense success. Apart from the revue, Irene Millar shows great daintiness and versatility as a refined comedienne; and the comedy duo, Athas and Collins, supply a very enjoyable turn.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—P., the Folkestone Pleasure Gardens Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—Messrs. Grossmith and Laurillard's Co. in "Potash and Perlmutter."

Boots, The Chemists, 12, Rendezvous-street; 61, High-street.

GATESHEAD.

THE METROPOLE.—P., the Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.: G. M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. E. C. Howitt.—The American Revue Co. present "The Answer's a Lemon."

Boots, The Chemists, 192, High-street.

GOOLE.

COLISEUM.—P., Mr. B. Firth.—Gyto and Assistant, jugglers; Violet and Vesta, vocalists and dancers; and pictures.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Florence Glossop-Harris and Frank Cellier's company, in a dramatised version of "David Copperfield." The cast includes Messrs. Max Jerome, Douglas Rubery, J. Knox, Orde, David G. Noble, Harold B. Lewis, David Champion, E. Leverett, Conner Leigh, Walter Carr, Maurice Ingram, Misses Augusta L. Lucas, Marjorie Allen, Gertrude Gilbert, Daisy Sedger, Elaine Hamilton, and Marjorie Owen.

HANLEY.

ROYAL.—Rehearsing for pantomime, "Aladdin."

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. F. Dudman Bromwich.—Young Buffalo, in his powerful Texas production, entitled "A Texas Ranger." Also appearing are the New Macs, comedians; Wilbert Gamble, an entertaining bluejacket; and the Five Waltons, Belgian springboard flyers.

Boots, The Chemists, 24 and 26, Piccadilly.

HARTLEPOOL.

PALLADIUM.—L., Mr. Thos. Thompson; R. M., Mr. Geo. Adamson; Mus. D., Mr. Carter Staincliffe.—The Northern Revues Syndicate present the musical comedy, "Keep Going," with a cast including Alec Godfrey, James Hawkes, Billy Stern, Lilian Caine, Mona Vanda, and Cecil Russell.

HUDDERSFIELD.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. S. Winks.—Messrs. Macdonald and Young present the musical comedy, "The Count of Luxembourg."

PALACE.—P., The Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; M., Mr. Herbert Garside.—Scott and Whaley, coloured comedians; Franco Piper, banjo soloist; Miss Ella Moore, coon singer; Monty Walker, comedian; Little Dolly Varden, comedienne and dancer; Briff, Braff, and Broff, comedy tumblers; and pictures.

HULL.

PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. John S. Barnett.—Fred Karno presents "The Mumming Birds"; the Harlequinaders; Amos Howard; Mlle. Hendricka; the Two Lillys; Wee Georgie Beck; Ermakoff; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 10 and 12, King Edward-street.

ILKESTON.

PICTUREDROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. Aubrey Allen.—The Flying Mars, sensational comedy flying trapeze act; Banjohra, Indian basso.

Boots, The Chemists, 122-124, Bath-street.

KING'S LYNN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. F. H. Cooper; M., Mr. Chas. Lestree.—Matt Melrose presents "Pekin to Paris."

Boots, The Chemists, 43 and 44, High-street.

LEAMINGTON SPA.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; M., Mr. John Halifax. — "The Still Alarm" is here this week.

Boots, The Chemists, 162, The Parade.

LEITH.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—M., Mr. G. M. Falconer; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Lees.—This week's programme is mainly provided by Fred. Kitchen's latest musical burlesque, "It's All Square." The piece is produced by Augustus Hammond, who brings an excellent company, headed by the Australian comedian, Fred. Bluett, and including Jack Warman, Aggie Morris, Connie Warde, Mabel and Cliff Diamond, and other clever artistes. In a well-defined humorous story are introduced many smart musical numbers, which, with the added attractions of pleasing scenery and beautiful dresses, make a bright show without any dull moments. Apart from the burlesque, Jenny McBride contributes a lively comedienne turn; Charles Cardow proves himself an entertaining comedian; and a wonderful display of gymnastic feats is given by Mlle. Zampa.

GAIETY THEATRE.—P., Mr. F. R. Graham-Yooll; G. M., Mr. E. M. Stratmore; Mus. D., Mr. John Crossley.—The "Great" Como justifies his claim to special distinction as an illusionist by many magical marvels, of which the "living target," the "enchanted cage," and the sensational "farmyard production" are among the most bewildering; May and Earle, in a very enjoyable novelty musical act; and pictures complete.

Boots, The Chemists, 100, Kirkgate.

LUTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. Graham Falcon; B. M., Mr. Walter O'Sullivan.—Jack Williams' revue, "When Irish Eyes are Smiling."

Boots, The Chemists, 27, George-street.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND.—L. & M., Mr. J. Charles Imeson.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company are paying a return visit with "A Royal Divorce," with Miss Agnes Verity and M. Juan Bonaparte in leading rôles.

ROYAL.—P., Mr. J. Charles Imeson; M., Mr. George Imeson.—Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson's company are this week producing "The Grip of Iron."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Bastiman.—Mr. George Foster's company in the revue, "The Radium Girl," tops the bill here, with Miss Alva York as the bright particular star. Wrangham and Gordon, comedy entertainers; Nellie Lind, soprano vocalist; and Gicardo, juggler, completes the programme.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Thomas Thompson; M., Mr. R. Frank Parker.—Ike and Will Scott announce the opening week of their touring pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," with Daisy Morrell (Robin Hood), Elsie Percival (Maid Marian), Charles Tempest (Dame), and Ike and Will Scott as the Robbers.

Boots, The Chemists, 17, Corporation-road.

NEATH.

GNOLL HALL.—P., The Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge.—Frank Hartley; Mog Morgan, baritone; Sisters Rexo; Arthur Woodville; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 56, Wind-street.

NEWPORT.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. J. H. Milburn.—Gertie Gitana; H. M. Vernon presents "The Case of Johnny Walker"; Pat, Doris, and Avis; Little Freddie Hackin; Eddie Astor, juggler; Carpatti Bros.; Adam Tomlinson; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 13, Commercial-street.

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Lawrie Owen. — Chas. Austin and Co., in "Parker, P.C.," create great merriment here; May Henderson is heartily welcomed; Yazo, violinist, with Miss Cecilia at the piano; Three Avenue Girls, dancers; The Alerts (Jack and Maude); Ellis Barrieton, in chorus songs; and The Oakleys, "The Sweep and the Maid," are all well received.

Boots, The Chemists, 6, Gold-street.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's company, with "Beauty and the Beast." Company includes: Miss Alice Taylor, Marie Hurley, Nell Crane, Evelyn Major, Peggy McDonnell, Messrs. Will Beeley, Stan. Annisson, Tom Gibson, Albert Doyle, the Brothers Armstrong, Andrew McManus, &c.

BOROUGH THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Black Brothers; R. M., Mr. T. W. Wilson; Mus. D., Mr. C. H. Lavender.—Jno. F. Traynor and Co. in the sketch, "The White Mother"; Tom E. Neale, dancer; Darty and partner, in comedy tumbling act; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 15-17, Saville-street.

NORTHWICH.

PAVILION, LTD.—D., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; M. D., Mr. Robt. Hamilton; R. M., Mr. Harold Booth; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Barlow.—Clarke and Davis, the incomparable fun makers; Keene and Allen, in mirth, music, and dancing; Alice Douglas, mill girl vocalist; Jack Andrews, comedian; Sarraguna, the lion-jawed Indian, assisted by May Golda; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 25, High-street.

PAISLEY.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; A. M., Mr. Alfred S. Leslie; M. D., Mr. J. Cartmell.—Phil Coleman and Lydia Alexandra, comedy vocal duo; Three Flying Wilkens, aerial comedy gymnasts; W. B. Raby, comedian; Gaumund Brothers, in a Danish comedy act; Walter Muir and company in a Scotch comedy sketch; Chorley and Connor, comedians and dancers; Lieut. Gordon, ventriloquist; and pictures.

PLYMOUTH.

GRAND THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. King and Parry.—"A London Actress."

PONTEFRACT.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—P., Mrs. S. A. Driver.—J. J. Mannix presents "Pillar to Post."

Boots, The Chemists, 2, Market-place.

READING.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Reading Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. J. H. Hyslop; Mus. D., Mr. W. M. Morgan.—Harry Norris and Herbert Clayton present "Who's Who?"; Phil Goldie, comedian; the Bon Air Trio; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 90-91, Broad-street; 2, Duke-street.

RUGBY.

EMPIRE.—P., Mr. B. Morris.—Fred and May, acrobats; Miss Violette Stanning, soprano; Lionel King, in lightning humorous cartooning act; Four Chandons, at the piano, in "A Rude Awakening," music, harmony, comedy and boxing; and pictures.

HIPPODROME. — P., The United Electric Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Crisford Garton; Theatres M., Mr. H. Stanley Marks. — Neville and Fortescue's company, in "The Old Rosary."

PALACE.—P., The United Electric Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Crisford Garton; Theatres M., Mr. H. Stanley Marks.—Winnie Etheridge and Jimmie Furso, in musical comedy act; Rene, the lady juggler, assisted by Eugene; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 26 and 27, High-street.

SALFORD.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Opens on Dec. 24 with John Clegg's pantomime, "The Forty Thieves."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Dry.—This week Harry Foxwell's company in "The Vicar's Wife."

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Tom Sherlock, in new songs; pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 277, Chapel-street; 91, Regent-road; 404, Regent-road.

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Mr. Chas Barnard; M., Mr. James Chapman.—Chas. Elderton's revue, "Away Down South."

Boots, The Chemists, 56, Cape-hill.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. John Glendinning and Miss Jessie Millward present "The Rosary."

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Will Murray; A. M., Mr. Wally Stephenson.—Mollie Lindsay and Co. in "The Washing House Key"; the Jenkins Bros., eccentrics; Rex Romaine and Doris Dainton, musical duo; Billy Rogers, the humorous labour leader; Zona and Milroy, versatile entertainers; Mina Bax, dancer; Radford and Russell, musical artistes; and the Houssein Family, acrobats.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Harry Yardley.—Second edition of "A Year in an Hour"; Cooper Mitchell, songs at the piano; W. A. Harvie, on the wire; Lucille Benstead, Australian vocalist.

Boots, The Chemists, 84, High-street, Shirley; 75, East-street; 25, Above Bar; 96, St. Mary's-street; 107, Shirley-road; 29, London-road; 155, Bedovis-hill.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Alderman J. Batty; M., Mr. W. Batty.—Mr. Frank Lindo's "Home, Sweet Home," with the author appearing for over the 4,000th time as Stephen Armitage, and Miss Marion Wakefield also in her original part.

HIPPODROME.—P., North-E. Entertainments, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. C. P. Metcalfe; Sec., Mr. G. Stainton.—The attraction is Jack Johnson, the pugilist, who appears with his wife in the revue, "Seconds Out." Cast also includes John Levey, Bert King, Fay Black, Dorwin Shannon, Chas. Grenville, Edward Delome, and the Cameo Troupe of Dancers.

Boots, The Chemists, 104 and 105, High-street.

STROUD.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., Gloucester Hippodrome Co.; M., Mr. W. Rashback.—Hyam Long, comedian; Will Reeves and Elsie Moreton, step dancers; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 23, Russell-street.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. S. F. Davidson; G. M., Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—Mr. S. F. Davidson's seventh Christmas pantomime, "Red Riding Hood." The cast includes Messrs. Arthur Rigby, Jock Bennet, Foley and Francis, George Green, Victor Cannon, and Misses Mabel Osborne, Lily Vane, the Sisters Holman, Delsey Cartello, Mary Turner, and the Eight Sunbeam Girls.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; B. M., Mr. Arthur E. Holland.—This week: Mr. Albert Sember's repertoire company, including Miss Maud Morton Powell, in the drama entitled "The Angel of His Dreams."

EMPIRE THEATRE. — M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; B. M., Mr. A. E. Barnes.—This week: Messrs. Ray Bros. company, including Syd Kirby, Eunice Noel, Julian Ross, and M. Dubin, in the musical burlesque entitled "Tit-Bits"; the Martini Trio, in vocal and instrumental music; Wilfred Burnand, in character studies; and Tom Parker, comedian.

Boots, The Chemists, 104 and 105, High-street.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Ltd.; L., Miss Gertrude Mouillot; R. M., Mr. T. Byrne; Mus. D., Mr. W. F. Hulley.—"Lucky Durham" and "The Lion and the Mouse."

Boots, The Chemists, 1-2, Oxford-street; 60, High-street; 1, Gwydyr-terrace, Uplands; 82, Brynymor-road.

WAKEFIELD.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Messrs. Sherwood & Co.—Messrs. Frank Linton and Ernest Grant present "The Fatal Wedding."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Sherwood & Co.—Mr. Percy Honri and company, in "1915 Revue."

PLAYHOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Mr. George Shurley and company present the revue, "Search Me," featuring Mr. Jack Edge and Miss Rose Hamilton, supported by Mr. Monty McVean, Family, Zola Trio, and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 3, Market-place.

WALLSEND.

BORO' THEATRE.—L., Messrs. Black Bros.; Manager, Mr. Will R. Ruecroft.—Pharos, Fordyce Family, Zola Trio, and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, corner of Station-road, and 1, High-street.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

EMPIRE. — P., The West Hartlepool Empire Palace, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; R. M., Mr. W. E. Piercy.—Alberta Flahey and her tenor; the Yelson Trio of Gymnasts; Maurice, the card manipulator; and Ed. G. Pelton presents the revue "Have a Guess," with a company including Jack Shires, Fred Wallis, Harry Rickards, Nancy Seymour, Leo Silvester, Charles Mars, and Harry Terry.

WEST HARTLEPOOL PALACE. — P., Messrs. Black Bros.; R. M., Mr. J. D. Roberton.—The variety turns during the week are Le Empire Trio, in singing, dancing, gymnastic, and juggling; and F. E. O'Byrne, singing and dancing mandolinist.

Boots, The Chemists, 51, Lynn-street.

WIGAN.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Wigan Entertainments, Ltd.—Gar Kiddie's pantomime, "Little Bo-Peep."

Boots, The Chemists, 47-49, Wallgate.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—S. P., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; M., Mr. J. Newton Cowling; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Bradley.—This week: Mr. Charles Draycott presents "The Other Woman." The cast includes: Messrs. William Burgess, Edmund Grogan, Victor Gordon, Francis Daniel, Harold Wood, Miss Violette Vivienne, Miss Emily Huby, Miss Winifred Rutland, and Miss Cissie Bellamy.

EMPIRE.—S. L., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Alex. Galley; Mus. D., Mr. Benjamin Parks.—The revue, "Step This Way," is the chief attraction here. Also in the bill are: Jack Lord, the handcuff violinist; Mamie Gilbert, comedienne; Abel and Welsh, eccentrics.

Boots, The Chemists, 7-8, Queen-street; 82, Chapel Ash.

YORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock. Mr. Johnson Clark, ventriloquist; Ralph Er Mey; Jessie Berg; the Westall Trio; Little Mary; Jim Nolan; Flora and Alberta; and pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; G. M., Mr. Wallace Stranack.—Louis J. Seymour presents "Yes! I Think So!"

Boots, The Chemists, 30, Coney-street.

PRESENTATION.—Eugene Foote, Equestrian Director and Ring Master, on the conclusion of a twelve months' tour in Africa with Bostock's Royal Italian Circus, was the recipient of a magnificent gold watch from the members of the company. Many thanks to Mr. E. H. and Mr. Douglas Bostock for a very comfortable engagement, also the boys for presentation and good wishes.

TO MANAGERS & AGENTS

who on the eve of production may find themselves **up a gum tree** for the want of an artiste. I am open to an immediate offer as Single Turn.

I am the only woman who can claim to have written a Comic Operetta and a Miniature Grand Opera. I am Pianiste and Singer (pupil of Mathilde Marchesi, Paris, and of Monsieur de Reszke), but above all, **I can amuse** people with "character" touches.

I am also open to negotiate for production later of an original novel musical act in one scena, playing about 40 minutes, principals and chorus. Letters direct to

MISS MAURICE PATRICE,
19, Cranley Place, Onslow Square, S.W.

A Right Merry Xmas
And of life a new lease,
And may soon all the joy-bells
Be ringing for Peace,

is the sincere wish of

John Bell

Theatrical Business Manager for

LUSH & COOK
LONDON'S LEADING Ltd.
CLEANERS and DYERS

who put the very BEST SPIRIT into their work, and their work into the very BEST SPIRIT, sparing no pains to please.

Write, Wire or PHONE.

29, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.

Phone, Gerrard 9580

Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd., have kindly granted the use of the King's Theatre, Glasgow, for a matinée in aid of the Indian Soldiers' Fund to be given early in next month, and it is expected that the leading pantomime artistes in Glasgow and Edinburgh will take part. The directors of the Adelphi Theatre, London, have also given permission for members of the "Tina" company to appear at the performance.

SOME OLD-TIME CELEBRITIES.

FROM "THE ERA'S" FRONT AND BACK PAGES.

By H. CHANCE NEWTON.

Good old "Era!" On looking through its "ads." of forty years ago and more, how the old times and the old-timers come back to me. I learned to read, for the most part, from its pages, and from that period of my childhood's days onwards, I read

"The Actor's Bible,"

as it has been called always, from the top of the front page to the bottom of the back one. This "Era"—devouring habit—induced by my having been reared from babyhood at the backs or fronts, or both, of London's theatres and music halls, and knowing the pros. from the time I could talk—grew apace.

So when "The Era" editor kindly suggested my coming into this Christmas number, and asked whether I would like to write anything about that periodical which I had known and followed for so long, my memory flew back to those early days—days when, young as I was, I

SAMUEL PHELPS.
Reprinted from "Dramatic Jubilee of J. A. Cave."

was quick to discern the quaint manners and customs of stage-folk, relations and otherwise, and especially to follow with great amusement some of their extraordinary methods of advertising in "The Era."

And with this glancing through "The Era's" front and back page ads. comes a recalling of certain habits and customs, or little anecdotes and storyettes concerning some of the theatrical and music-hall favourites of the past. Here is

Mr. Phelps, Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

That is where I caught that greatest of actors of his time and since. It was a few years after he had finished his eighteen years' consecutive season of the "legit." at Sadler's Wells, closing only on Sundays, Good Fridays, Christmas Days, and Ash Wednesdays in all that time (Every theatre then had to close on Ash Wednesdays.

Well, here stands Samuel Phelps before me. I can see him enthralling his audiences into thrilled silence and tears by his Othello, awakening their horror and detestation by his Iago; appalling them by his Macbeth; or causing the house to rock with laughter by his Bailie Nicol Jarvie and his Bottom the Weaver. No actor ever had such a range as he!

I can see, too, that patient, lovable old actor, throwing the fly and hooking the trout in the little River Darenth, hard by the quaint Old Lion Hotel, where you will still find the portrait of Phelps as a piscator. I can see him raging in almost speechless horror at Mr. Charles Dillon, also then of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, every evening, because Charles (also a great, if far less varied actor) would not shave off his thick moustache and stubbly beard even to play the white-wigged Charles Surface to Phelps's never yet beaten Sir Peter Teazle!

Finally, I can see poor old Phelps as he appeared the day when the news came to him in the theatre that his wastrel son, Edmund (a very poor actor) had just dropped dead in the street, at the age of twenty-nine. Last scene of all is that wherein the still great actor, then seventy-four, was struck down on the Aquarium Theatre stage at the moment when as Wolsey he was uttering the lines, "Farewell! a long farewell to all my greatness!"

Again I seem to see Dillon—soon afterwards "On tour"—melting audiences to tears by his performance of Belphegor. Chancing to be in London one day, and being affectionately greeted by Henry Irving, who used to "support" him in small parts, Dillon for some time professed not to recognise Irving, but eventually seemed to have a glimmer, and exclaimed, in his most patronising manner, "Irving? Irving? Oh! yes, I fancy I remember you; and what are you doing *now*, Mr. Irving?" What Irving was doing was finishing up his 200 nights' record run of "Hamlet," and this rencontre took place in front of the Lyceum.

Speaking of Irving, here is an early "Era"

CHARLES KEAN.
From an old engraving.

advert.:—"Mr. H. Irving, St. James's Theatre, every evening." Here I can see the afterwards great actor-manager making his first appearances in London, that is, as regards any important parts. A few years before at Sadler's Wells he had got a week's notice from Phelps, who solemnly warned him to quit the boards for ever.

At the St. James's I can again see

Irving "Striking" Against His Manageress,

beautiful (and, I think, still surviving) Miss Herbert, for a ten shilling rise per week on his then three-pound salary. He did not get it, so anon we find him (see another advert.) as "Henry Irving, lead and stage-manager, Queen's Theatre, Long Acre," and getting £3 10s.! (Your humble servant, then a boy, being summoned by him to copy plays and parts at 3d. per act).

In another advert. a year or so later we find "Mr. H. Irving supporting Mr. Toole, Gaiety Theatre, every evening," and now again flying off with Toole to fill in weeks and playing six or seven parts (plus two recitations) at the Surrey, the Standard, &c. Finally, I call to mind the memorable night at the Gaiety when Charles Dickens (a few months before his sudden death) was sitting in a private box with Henry J. Byron, what time that rich humorist's "Uncle Dick's Darling" was being played.

"Who is that young man playing the haughty Mr. Chevenix?" asked Dickens. "That's young Harry Irving, a real good pal," replied Byron. "He is a real good acter," said Dickens, "and one of these days he will become famous!"

Fifteen months after Dickens's death we read in an "Era" advertisement, "Lyceum Theatre. Lessee, Colonel Bateman. Enormous success of Mr. Irving in 'The Bells.'" That, as all the world knows, was the beginning of Irving's great renown. He was then getting £15 per week, and presently he struck for £35 before he would play Richelieu, and later for £50 before essaying Hamlet.

CHARLES DILLON.
Reprinted from "Dramatic Jubilee of J. A. Cave."

On another column of the front page I read:—

Mr. Creswick, Surrey Theatre,

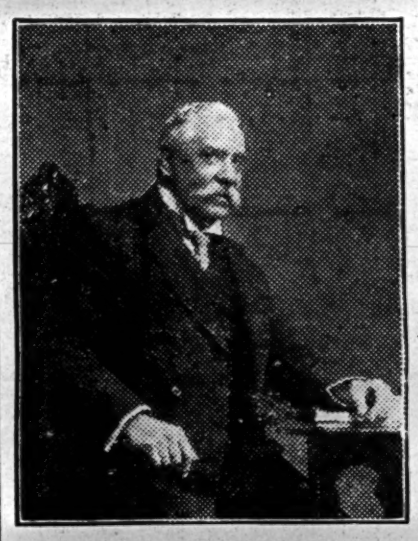
and lo! that fine melodramatic actor, if not altogether great tragedian, rises up before me, refusing at rehearsal, as he had refused for years, to carry any real firearms in any play. Poor "Cressy," as many of us called him, had good reason for such refusal. A few years earlier he had, while out shooting, accidentally killed the brother of "Dicky" Shepherd, so many years his co-manager at the Surrey.

And as these Surrey nights come back to memory with recollections not only of Creswick but of Dillon, George and James Bennett, and other "tragedians of the city," I hear again the nightly stentorian cry of a huge Commissionaire, who, just as the curtain rose, stood with his back to the orchestra rails, and sternly addressed the audience thus:—"Ladies and gentlemen,—You are requested by Messrs. Shepherd and Creswick not to crack nuts during the performance!"

Speaking of "Dicky" Shepherd reminds me of

Our Dear Old Friend, James Fernandez,

who died the other day "full of years and honour." Here, at the time of "The Era" adver-



[*Photo by Herbert Tear, Clapham-road.*
MR. H. CHANCE NEWTON.

tisements I am reviewing, he is thus announced:—"Mr. J. Fernandez as Claude Frollo in 'Notre Dame,' Adelphi Theatre." Once, when playing "juveniles" at the Surrey, he took a rise out of the often extremely autocratic Shepherd. "Dicky" had just been casting a play, and had left the stage for a few minutes, when Fernandez, looking at the part which had been allotted to him, declared aloud that he didn't like it, and that he wouldn't play it.

"For heaven's sake, don't you dare to tell Shepherd so!" said certain members of the company. "He'll say, 'Take that!' and knock you down!"

"Will he?" answered James. "We shall see." Then Fernandez stalked straight to Shepherd's dressing-room, knocked at the door, and as "Dicky" opened it, James exclaimed, "Mr. Shepherd, sir, I don't like this part and take *that!*" With that he sent "Dicky" spinning across the room.

The Era's Music Hall Star Advertisers

of forty years ago were strange and startling folk for the most part. We come across such favourites

HENRY IRVING AT THE AGE OF 30.
Reprinted from "Gaiety Chronicles."

as George Leybourne, Walter Laburnam (who at first imitated Leybourne), Arthur Lloyd (most versatile of comics), George Ware (afterwards the agent who advertised himself herein as "The Old Reliable"), Fred French, Vance, Harry Liston and Mackney. The last-named was still going strong up to a few years ago, when just before his death at 85 he called upon me and sang "Such a gittin' up stairs," "The whole hog or none," and danced his old cellar-flap with all his accustomed neatness and drollery.

Poor Leybourne! Just at the period of which I am treating you find his name associated in the "Era" columns with that of William Holland. The advert runs thus:—

"George Leybourne, the Lion Comique! Specially engaged by William Holland, Esq., the People's Caterer, Canterbury Music Hall. Every evening!"

This was when Holland gave an "exclusive engagement to Leybourne" at £1,500 a year. The contracts can be inspected at the Hall." This salary was on condition that Leybourne always drove to and from the Canterbury in a gorgeous "open landau," drawn by four white horses!

Leybourne was one of the handsomest and cleverest of the "Comiques," whether "Lion," "Mammoth," or otherwise. He had been a hammerman at Maudsley's, the marine engineers, then near the Canterbury, and prosperity did not agree

E. W. MACKNEY.
Reprinted from "Life of Charles Morton."

with him. I can see him now, as I often saw him, quaffing "fizz" out of quart pewter pots to the accompaniment of whelks! I can hear his fine voice—which he often used in the most difficult serious ballads when he thought he would. I can see the poor chap revelling more and more and then progressing less and less till he finished at the Queen's, Poplar, a few days before his death at the age of 42!

Forty-two! That was the age at which

Dear Old Dan Leno

died twenty years later. At the time of Leybourne's death Leno had scarcely got out of his clog-dancing stage, when often enough he added a bit to his then sparse income by doing a little ticket-writing, fascia-painting, and designing all sorts of quaint but horribly paid-for posters for marine store dealers (as the rag-shop keepers loved to be called).

At this period a young Irish ex-sailor—born O'Farrell—became

The Great Macdermott.

You will find him at this early time of his in the "Grecian" and "Brit." advertisements as an actor playing anything and everything from Iago to Box or Cox, from Hamlet or the Ghost to Sweeney Todd. Suddenly again I see him playing Cardinal Wolsey in a Harry the Eighth panto. at the Grecian and doing a splendid big boot dance, the music for which haunts me still. Anon Mac finds himself, through this Grecian success, as Blue Beard in a Covent Garden pantomime.

Suddenly he takes to the Halls, making one of his first successes therein in a song called "If ever there was a d—d scamp," written by the aforesaid Pettitt for *half a sovereign*. Later "Mac" gets a guinea song from G. W. Hunt. It is the long-famous "We don't want to fight, but, by Jingo, if we do!"

William Holland's "Era" and other advertisements were like Sam Weller's knowledge of London, "extensive and peculiar." In turn he ran the Canterbury, the North Woolwich Gardens, the Albert Palace, Battersea, the Surrey, the Alhambra, the Agricultural Hall, and Covent Garden Theatre, to name only some of his London ventures. Poor "Bill," who died at 58, was really a master in the making of startling advertisements. Look some of them up and see!

Turning rapidly over these forty-years-old—or a bit older—"Era" advertisements, one finds strange and ebullient specimens from Jenny Hill (billed as "The Vital Spark," and never yet replaced as a versatile music hall artiste), Bessie Bellwood (surely the sauciest of serios), and at a time when

Marie Lloyd was but a Little Child!

—Charles Williams, topical vocalist, "terrific success of his great new patriotic song, 'The Union Jack of Old England'"—poor Williams, thrown out of a dogcart and killed at about 28!—Nelly Power, then at her best and brightest; Kate

MR. HARRY LISTON.
Reprinted from "Life of Charles Morton."

Santley (still landlady of the Royalty Theatre), then taking to the theatre stage after long singing "The bell goes a-ringing for Sarah" on the "halls"; Teddy Mosedale, who could do the smartest of step-dances on a pocket-handkerchief without ruffling it from the stage; and the "Great" Vance, who, after hard work as a theatre actor and clown, took to comic singing and became all the rage with "Slap bang! here we are again!" "Walking in the Zoo," "He's a pal o' mine," "Costermonger Joe," and "The Chickaleary Bloke," &c.; and Harry Liston, who was advertising a touring musical entertainment called "Merry Moments" in the "Era" forty-odd years ago, is still touring it. He wrote to the "Era" only a few weeks ago pointing out that a certain new revue had been given the name of the above-mentioned musical entertainment. Good old Harry! Here is his portrait nearly fifty years ago!

Here, now, is a very important advertisement (vide "Era," 1866): "Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean; returned from their Australian tour." Well do I remember hearing, in my childhood's days, frequent imitations of the younger Kean, and in these theatrical and music hall imitations the one great joke was to indicate that in

This Actor's Somewhat Adenoidal Delivery

a certain line in Macbeth's speech about the prayer of King Duncan's two servants or "grooms" always came out as "I could not say A-bed! for a-bed would stick in my throat!"

Of all the remarkable advertisements in "The Era" of forty and odd years ago undoubtedly the most remarkable were the Gaiety specimens of John Hollingshead, who, in consequence of his startling neckwear, was nicknamed by his then resident dramatist, Henry J. Byron, "Jack the Giant Collar." Practical John's advertisements were of the cheekiest nature, especially when he attacked the Lord Chamberlain and the licensing authorities, his custom always about every fortnight. He issued very quaint advertisements concerning the chief members of his regular company. This company included from time to time Miss Madge Robertson (afterwards Mrs. Kendal), then not long from Drury Lane, where she made her grown-up début in Andrew Halliday's very melodramatic melodrama "The Great City," which piece put

The First Real Cab on the Stage;

Lilian Adelaide Neilson, who died at 30, leaving a big fortune and the money for the present Neilson Fund; Johnnie Toole, who long stuck to Hollingshead's advertisement of him as "Mr. Toole in Three Pieces"; Alfred Wigan, equally brilliant in French as in English characters; the late Dion Boucicault and his still surviving widow; Edward Terry, just over from the old Strand, where he used to make winning bets nightly that he would "sprint" all comers over the bridge to Waterloo Station.

"The greatest Musical Act in the country."
—*Vide* Press.

HAYDN WOOD
and
DOROTHY COURT

At the Piano—
ETHEL ROBINSON.

The *only* act performing ENTIRELY ORIGINAL MUSIC, specially composed for it by HAYDN WOOD, featuring his PHENOMENAL SUCCESS—

"LOVE'S GARDEN OF ROSES."

which equals in popularity his famous

"BIRD OF LOVE DIVINE."

also his new song,

"I BRING YOU JOY."

which Miss Court will sing for the first time at the

HIPPODROME, DARLINGTON, Next Week, Dec. 27.

HAYDN WOOD
and
DOROTHY COURT

The most artistic Musical Act on the Halls.

Coms. to LIONEL WALLACE, c/o BLACKMORE'S, 11, Garrick Street, W.C., or HAYDN WOOD, 25, Parliament Hill Mansions, London, N.W. Tel. 6969 Hampstead.

WANTED.

For Harry M. Vernon's Production—"JINGLE BELLS,"

Superior CHORUS Ladies.

APPEARANCE AND VOICE ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL.

Apply—Mr. GUS SOHLKE, 5, Green Street, Leicester Square

PRINCIPALS OF THE PANTOMIMES.

[Photo by Bustin, Bristol.
TOMMY MOSTOL.
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.

[Photo by Claude Harris.
MISS PEARL GREY.
Principal Boy.
THEATRE ROYAL, EDINBURGH.

[Photo by White, New York.
MISS RENÉE REEL.
Principal Girl.
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.

JOHNNY SCHOFIELD, JUN.
Dame.
ALDWYCH THEATRE.

MISS NANCY BUCKLAND.
Susie Sunshine, "Puss in Boots."
DRURY LANE.

[Photo by Foulsham and Banfield.
MISS DOROTHY WARD.
Principal Boy.
GRAND THEATRE, LEEDS.

MISS MARGOT KELLY.
Principal Girl.
ROYAL COURT, LIVERPOOL.

MISS WINNIE GOODWIN.
Principal Girl.
PRINCESS'S, GLASGOW.

MISS RENÉ RALPH.
Principal Boy.
PRINCE'S, BRADFORD.

[Photo by Deardens, Blackpool.
MISS LILY VINE.
Principal Boy.
ROYAL PRINCESS'S, GLASGOW.

SAM THOMPSON.
ROYAL PRINCESS'S, GLASGOW.

JACK PLEASANTS.
Billy Crusoe.
THEATRE ROYAL, MANCHESTER.

[Photo by Hana.
MISS LILY MORRIS.
Dick Whittington.
KING'S THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

PRINCIPALS OF THE PANTOMIMES.

Prince Charming, "Cinderella."
MISS NORA DELANY.
THE PALLADIUM.

MISS IVEY LATIMER.
Principal Boy.
ROYAL COURT, LIVERPOOL.

[Photo by Bustin, Bristol.
MISS JOSIE DELAINE.
Principal Boy, "Jack and the Beanstalk."
ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.

HARRY WELDON.
Buttons, "Cinderella."

[Photo by Sydney, Manchester.
MISS EMPSIE BOWMAN.
Principal Girl.
PRINCE'S, BRADFORD.

MISS WINIFRED DELEVANTI.
Principal Girl.
THEATRE ROYAL, BIRMINGHAM.

[Photo by Adelphi Studios.
MISS NONNY LOCK.
Cinderella.
GRAND, NOTTINGHAM.

[Photo by Hans.
MISS DAISY DORMER.
Principal Girl.
PRINCE'S, BRISTOL.

MISS HAIDEE DE RANCE.
Principal Girl.
THEATRE ROYAL, EDINBURGH.

MISS FLORRIE ELLISTON.
Principal Girl.
KING'S, EDINBURGH.

MISS BETTY GREEN.
Principal Girl.
ALEXANDRA, BIRMINGHAM.

[Photo by Wrather and Buys.
MISS WINIFRED ELLICE.
Principal Boy.
SHAKESPEARE, LIVERPOOL.

MR. ROWLAND HILL.
Principal Comedian, "Jack and the Beanstalk."
BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Christmas comes this year under happier auspices than last, so far as the theatrical profession is concerned; for, despite Zeppelin scares, lighting restrictions, and the departure of our menfolk for the field of battle, nearly every theatre in the metropolis will be open for the holidays. Under such conditions we are quite justified in wishing our readers, at home and in the trenches, the old wish, a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year, and trust that before another Christmas dawns a peace honourable to British arms will be in sight.

Seasonable wishes reach us from near and far, on field service postcard, in letters from all fronts, and in picturesque cards. We reciprocate every good wish heartily.

A cheery view of the situation is taken by the men at the front, as is proved by the following letter written by an officer of the 15th London Battery to thank the readers of "The Era" for the cigarettes sent out. "I wish some of your readers," he adds, "could see how much the men appreciate them. When you are up to your ears in mud, and damp to the skin, then one really does know what a cigarette means. Although the men of the battery have to put up with many discomforts, yet they are wonderfully cheerful and much more confident than, judging by the newspapers, you are at home. I hope that when your readers are sitting comfortably by a fire in a cosy chair they will again think of us trying to do our bit out here."

Sir Herbert Tree writes home with much enthusiasm of the way he was greeted by old friends and newspapers everywhere in the States. He has been made an honorary member of the Union and the Knickerbocker, the Lambs, and the Players Clubs—the two first the most exclusive of social clubs, and the other two similar to the Savage and Green Room Clubs.

Sir Herbert's works of charity are by no means languishing during his absence abroad. The secretary of the Actors' Benevolent War Emergency Fund gratefully acknowledges the receipt from the distinguished actor-manager of £38 14s. 2d., part proceeds of the Sunday lectures at His Majesty's Theatre. Moreover, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., has very generously devoted his fee for lecturing to three charities, and a cheque has been forwarded to the Actors' Benevolent Fund for £8 6s. 8d.

The Little Theatre is to be devoted to the purposes of a hostel for soldiers and sailors. Miss Gertrude Kingston, the proprietress of the theatre, is interesting herself in the scheme, and has undertaken to organise afternoon entertainments for the invalids, to take place on the stage from 2.30 to 6 p.m.

The dressing-rooms will be converted into bedrooms, where bunks will be fitted up. The auditorium will be used as a lounge during the daytime, but at night a supply of folding mattresses and blankets will be provided, so that men who cannot get bunks will be able to have a comfortable rest for 3d. a night. Hot meals will be obtainable at any hour of the day or night.

The Little Theatre, it may be recalled, stands where were, formerly, the strong rooms of Coutts' Bank. There was a previous Little Theatre in Stageland—"The Little Theatre in the Haymarket," which stood, from 1720 to 1820, very near to the site on which Nash built the present Haymarket Theatre. This Little Theatre was so called to distinguish it from Vanbrugh's larger theatre across the road (the predecessor of His Majesty's).

Mr. Bannister Howard has his hands very full just now, for in addition to running his pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," at the Aldwych, he is doing no less than three others. "Red Riding Hood" goes on tour, opening on Boxing Day at East Ham, and the following week journeys to Watford. On the same day "Aladdin" opens at Cheltenham for two weeks and a tour, and "Jack and the Beanstalk" opens at Guildford prior to touring. In addition to these pantomimes Mr. Howard's "Florodora" company, with Miss Evie Greene, runs right through Christmas, and at the end of the spring will have played forty weeks.

The merry farce, "Stop Thief!" which has been running for two months at the New Theatre, was transferred on Monday to the Prince of Wales's, where it was received with loud laughter by a very large audience. Mr. Percy Hutchison has made his character of the Crook more diverting than ever, and none can withstand the comic effect of every scene in which he appears. The other members of the cast, including Miss Marie Illington, Miss Gertrude Lang, Mr. Frederick Volpé, Mr. Marsh Allen, Mr. Hayden Coffin, and Mr. Sidney Paxton, continue to work with unflagging zest.

"Oh! La! La!" the latest revue to invade the domain of the theatre, will be produced at the Queen's on the afternoon of Boxing Day. The new production, the book of which is by Mr. Norman H. Lee, will be presented by Messrs. George B. McLellan and Walter De Frece. A novelty of the piece will be the appearance of Miss Hetty King in feminine attire. Mr. Jack Norworth will be in the cast, which will also include Mr. Ernie Lotinga, Miss Laura Guerite, and Miss Jean Allistone. Although the revue will contain one or two scenes from "Looking Around," recently at the Garrick, the production will be practically new.

The late Lord Alverstone was a great friend of the stage, and was a faithful first-nighter. A few years ago he presided at the annual meeting of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, which specialises in chairmen, and made a most sympathetic speech.

He had musical inclinations, too, and for many years was a member of the choir at Kensington Parish Church. A good many curious folk went to see the unusual spectacle of an Attorney-General in a surplice, but were not always able to identify him. One of these visitors asked the verger which of the choirmen was the Attorney-General, and received the dignified reply: "That's the vicar, them's the curates, I'm the verger, and so long as the choir gives satisfaction it's not my business to inquire into the antecedents of any of 'em."

The production of "The Starlight Express" announced for Boxing Day has been postponed to Wednesday next. The play is intended for the delight of children, young and old, and is of a cheery and mirthful character. Miss Ashwell herself heads the cast, which further includes Mr. Charles Mott, the popular vocalist, Mr. O. B. Clarence, Miss Mary Barton, Miss Clytie Hine, Mr. Owen Roughwood, Mr. Leonard Calvert, Mr. E. F. Mayeur, Elise Hall and Ronald Hammond.

The scenery and dresses for the "Starlight Express" are being designed by Mr. Henry Wilson, who has lately succeeded Walter Crane as President of the Arts and Crafts Society. Miss Lena Ashwell is producing the play herself.

Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson will make his last appearance on the American stage in Sander's Theatre, Harvard University, on April 24. The president of the University and the chairman of the Department of English have formally invited Sir Johnston to present "Hamlet" on the old Elizabethan stage of that theatre to celebrate the three hundredth anniversary of the death of Shakespeare, and to mark the final appearance in that country of the distinguished English actor.

The surplus accruing from the performance, after all expenses have been paid, are to go to some charity to be chosen by Sir Johnston, and as the actor is intensely interested in several English relief funds, it is probable that he will select one of these. At present Forbes-Robertson is appearing in the south and south-west, and his tour embraces only those cities he has not said forewell to.

Intending celebrators of the Tercentenary will do well to note that whether the Deathday is April 23 or not, certain astronomers have just claimed to have discovered that the "Birthday" is *not*—as we have all been led to believe so long—April 23, but May 2!

Capt. Templar Powell will spend Christmas-Day in the trenches. The gallant captain went back to France several weeks back, but is now with the 10th Battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers. His description of the trenches where he is stationed does not present an alluring picture, the mud being up to the men's thighs.

"I had a narrow escape the other day," writes Captain Powell. "A shell burst in front of my dug-out and imprisoned us all. We dug our way out safely without one casualty. The men are in need of cigarettes and comforts, and should anyone send to me personally they may rest assured the men get the things."

The latest actor to fall on the field of honour is Lieut. Henry Armstrong, who was killed instantly in France while reconnoitring on Nov. 29. His Colonel writes of him that he was "a splendid officer, absolutely fearless, always hard at work, and loved by officers and men."

Lieut. Armstrong, the son of the late F. J. Armstrong, barrister, of Sydney, N.S.W., and the late Mrs. Armstrong, of 4, Cottesmore-gardens, Kensington, was educated at Haileybury College. He soon conceived a liking for the theatre, and acted for some little time in one of Mr. Compton's companies. From there he took to managing, and did good work for several years. When war broke out he enlisted at once in the 6th Gloucesters (T.F.), obtaining his commission in the 7th Somersets last January. His age was 35.

The attention of all intending students of the dramatic art may be directed to the increased facilities offered by the Royal Academy of Music for acquiring proficiency in the histrionic art. This academy has now a perfect, fully equipped, theatre in the Duke's Hall (which forms part of the building), where students can rehearse and perform with all the advantages attached to an up-to-date West-end theatre.

Our representative, piloted by the courteous secretary, Mr. J. A. Creighton, noted the thoroughness with which everything has been done. The theatre has seating accommodation for 700, the proscenium opening is 21 feet wide, by 20 feet high, the depth of stage is 20 feet, and the electric light installation includes 20 feet of sunk footlights, while the dressing-rooms are of such luxury as to make any pro. pleased to make his home there.

A dress rehearsal of Shakespeare's "Two Gentlemen of Verona" was being carried through under the skilful guidance of Mr. Acton Bond, who is at the head of the dramatic training part of the R.A.M., and the students (whose make-up is undertaken by Fox and Co., Wellington-street) seemed, one and all, to enter most enthusiastically into their respective parts.

While "Alice in Wonderland" occupies the stage at matinées at the Duke of York's, the evening entertainment, commencing on Thursday next, will be provided by Miss Horniman's Company in Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors" and an adaptation by Mesley Down and "Henry Seton" of Molière's "Les Femmes Savantes" entitled "The Blue Stockings." Reviving an old custom, the "Comedy of Errors" will be played throughout its seven scenes without an interval.

The two Dromios will be Mr. Cecil G. Calvert and Mr. Charles Groves. Miss Edyth Goodall will be Adriana, and the remainder of the cast will consist of Messrs. Stanley Drewitt, Ernest Haines, Gordon Fleming, Grendon Bentley, and Herbert Lomas; Miss Christie Laws, Miss Amy Ravenscroft, Mrs. A. B. Tapping, and Miss Marie Royter.

As many playgoers are aware, "Henry Seton" is the pen-name of Miss Vera Beringer, who will appear in "The Blue Stockings," for the adaptation of which she is partly responsible. Another prominent member of the company will be Mr. Leon Quartermaine.

The title-rôle in "Alice in Wonderland," at the Duke of York's Theatre, will again be played by Miss Ivy Sawyer, Messrs. Stedmans having procured her release from her contract with "The Angel in the House." Little Vera Hamilton, who was chosen from over three hundred applicants for the part, will appear as Alice in a duplicate of the production at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.

At Bow-street Police Court on Friday, Miss Lena Ashwell was summoned at the instance of the Holborn Borough Council, who sought to levy a distress for rates amounting to £83 6s. 6d. in respect of her occupation of the Kingsway Theatre. On behalf of Miss Ashwell, a solicitor informed the magistrate that she had had a great deal of misfortune since the war began. The theatre was let to Mr. Granville Barker, and at the outbreak of the war he went to America. Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie produced a play, which proved to be a failure, and the theatre was closed from May to October. Miss Ashwell then produced "Iris Intervenes," which had only been staged for three days when the Zeppelin scare was revived, and the play had to be discontinued. She was now engaged in producing a new play, and the probabilities were that it would be a success. The magistrate granted leave to distrain after Jan. 17.

The collection of portraits of musicians formed by the late Dr. W. H. Cummings, F.S.A., was offered for sale at Christie's on Friday, when the Gainsborough three-quarter length portrait of Charles F. Abel, the famous player on the viol da gamba fetched 380 guineas. The portrait was bequeathed by Miss Gainsborough to a Mr. Briggs, at the sale of whose pictures it was bought by Mr. Crompton. The next owner seems to have been a Mr. Snoxall, a window-blind maker. It was, with other portraits of musical celebrities, offered at Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's in 1866, but was "passed." It then found its way to a small dealer in the neighbourhood of Covent Garden, from whom the late Dr. Cummings purchased it some fifty years ago.

The Moody-Manners opera season opens on the afternoon of Boxing Day, at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, with "The Lily of Killarney," "The Bohemian Girl" being given in the evening. The season will be of ten weeks' duration.

Miss Agnes Nicholls has been specially engaged by Mr. Charles Manners to appear during the Moody-Manners season, and among the leading members of the company are Mr. Walter Hyde, Miss Phyllis Archibald, Mr. Charles Moorhouse, Mr. Harry Brindle, Mr. Flintoff Moore, Mr. Furness Williams, Miss Enid Cruickshank, Miss Alexander, Mr. Hubert Dunkerley, Mr. Frederick Hargrave, Miss Muriel Gough, Mr. Fred Davies, Miss Lily Moody, and Miss Kitty Brownless.

Mr. W. W. Kelly's birthday occurred on Thursday last, and it was made the occasion of congratulations from the popular manager's many friends. Gifts were numerous, and conspicuous was a handsome attaché case presented by several members of Mr. Kelly's various staffs.

The season of opera in English at the Shaftesbury Theatre will be resumed on the afternoon of Boxing Day with "Cavalleria Rusticana," and "Pagliacci." In the evening "Carmen" will be given. The programme of the new season will include all the operas already given, with the addition of "Manon Lescaut," "Il Trovatore," "Lily of Killarney" (Benedict), "The Prodigal Son" (Debussy), and other works to be announced later.

"The Merchant of Venice" will continue at the St. James's until Friday, Dec. 31, both afternoon and evening performances being given on Boxing Day and every day following. Mr. Lang begins his season at the Strand on New Year's Day.

There will be a répétition générale of the "Babes in the Wood" at the Aldwych at 3 o'clock on Friday, to which Mr. Bannister Howard will be pleased to invite wounded soldiers. Will those interested communicate with him at the Aldwych Theatre? He has engaged a full ladies' band. This will probably be the first time a pantomime has been thus accompanied. Even in the box office there is a lady manageress. No fit man of military age will be found at the Aldwych. His own son, Mr. J. B. Howard, jun., is a Flight Sub-Lieutenant.

In reply to a eulogistic speech by the Countess Waldegrave at the conclusion of a most successful performance of "The Importance of Being Earnest" at the Theatre Royal, Bath, last week, in aid of the Red Cross Fund, Mr. Henry Baynton said: "I will endeavour to convey to the profession your tribute. I consider my profession is greatly privileged in these times. I can only say it is a great pleasure to do anything for such charities, only there are, I regret to say, a number of people who would like the theatres to be closed in war time, but when I tell you that it is a profession in which the women largely outnumber the men you will agree with me that it would be very unfair. Actors are not slackers. I believe that since the war broke out no less than 8,000 actors have enlisted, and 1,500 have already been in the firing line."

Miss Cherry Hardy has been released from her part in the revue, "Hello, Everybody!" to play the principal part in the No. 1 tour of "A Little Bit of Fluff."

Mr. A. W. Tyrer, who has lately returned from a long engagement in South Africa, has been re-engaged by Mr. Gerald Alexander, to take up his old part of Raffles on the forthcoming spring tour.

All the eligible members of "Shell Out" Company at the Comedy Theatre, including the principals and the staff (both back and front of the house) have been attested and placed in their various groups under Lord Derby's scheme.

Mr. Lewis Waller, who died on Nov. 1 last, left estate valued at £5,845 18s. 11d., with net personalty nil. Mr. Victor Erskine Lewis, his brother, is the sole executor. Testator leaves to the executor, as mementoes, such articles as he may select to the value of £50, and the residue of his property he leaves to his children, Edmund Waller and Nancy Waller, the share of his daughter to become payable to her on attaining the age of 21 years or upon marrying.

"Please Help Emily" is the title of the new play in which Mr. Charles Hawtrey and Miss Gladys Cooper will shortly be seen in the West-end. The strength of the company may be gathered from the fact that in addition to the popular artistes named it includes Miss Lottie Venne, Miss Helen Haye, Mr. Fred Kerr, Mr. Paul Arthur, and Mr. Nigel Playfair.

An important communication, too late for inclusion in our "Letterbox," awaits Miss Lydia Hayward at this office.

Miss Dorma Leigh, the clever dancer at the Adelphi, had an exciting escape from Germany when war was declared with Russia. Both she and her partner, Jan Oyra, who is a Pole, were giving an exhibition of dancing at Cologne, in a theatre about two miles out of the town. Miss Leigh tells how on the Friday night Oyra came rushing into her room telling her to pack at once and get away from the town, and how his arms ached after carrying their several packages through the grounds, for all the traps had disappeared.

Sympathy of the sincerest kind should be extended to Mrs. Stock, the lady who, in 1906, was Eva Carrington, one of the "Gibson Girls" at the Aldwych Theatre. At the age of nineteen she left the stage to marry Lord de Clifford. Three years later her husband was killed in a motor-car accident. After nearly four years of widowhood, she married, in 1913, Mr. Arthur Stock, of Glenapp Castle, Ballantrae. Now comes the news that he died on Sunday from pneumonia.

We record with regret the death, at King's Lynn on Thursday, as the result of a revolver accident, of Lieutenant Albert Edward Benedict, only son of the late Sir Julius and Lady Benedict who had won distinction as an actor. Educated at Winchester School and later at Oriel College, Oxford, Lieutenant Benedict was originally intended for the Stock Exchange, but chose the stage for a profession, and entered the Academy of Dramatic Art. His first engagement was as Schram in Mr. C. M. S. McLellan's play, "Leah Kleschna," on tour. Eventually he joined Miss Evelyn Millard in her revival at the Criterion of "The Adventure of Lady Ursula."

After an engagement with Mr. Gerald du Maurier at Wyndham's, in "The Perplexed Husband," and other plays, Mr. Benedict became a member of Sir George Alexander's company, and was allotted a leading part in Sir Arthur Pinero's little piece, "Playgoers." In December of last year he joined the Royal Bucks Hussars, and had become a promising officer. At an inquest held on Friday, the jury found a verdict of accidental death. The deceased officer was buried on Saturday with military honours.

OUR CIGARETTE FUND.

KING ALBERT'S THANKS TO "ERA" READERS.

We have much pleasure in publishing the following letter, received from H.M. the King of the Belgians, in which His Majesty graciously expresses his thanks to the readers of "The Era" for their recent gifts of cigarettes to his brave troops:—

Dec. 13, 1915.

Secrétariat du Roi et de la Reine.

SIR,—H.M. the King has been delighted to receive the gift offered to him by the readers of "The Era" through you.

Being much impressed by this proof of generosity, His Majesty addresses, to the charitable donors, the expression of his deep gratitude.

Our Sovereign, who will be happy to distribute the cigarettes among our soldiers, would be thankful to you if you would be good enough to convey to the donors his deepest thanks.

Believe me, Sir,

Yours very faithfully,

(Signed) J. INGENBLEER,
Secretary.

In consequence of extreme pressure upon our space we are reluctantly compelled to hold over until our next issue the announcement of a fourth splendid list of subscriptions received from our kind artiste, managerial, and reader friends; but the outcome of their efforts has enabled us to despatch to the Front this week ten thousand cigarettes to each of the following regiments, as Christmas gifts:—Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders; 25th Anti-Aircraft Section; 7th Suffolk Regt.; 1/5 Battn. Lincolnshire Regt.; 95th Infantry Brigade; and ten thousand cigarettes to Admiral Beattie, H.M.S. Tiger.

A complete list of subscriptions to date will be announced in "The Era."

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE FOX.

Many of our readers will hear with sincere regret of the death of Mr. George Fox, of the well-known firm of perruquiers and costumiers, Chas. H. Fox, Ltd., Wellington-street, who passed away on Thursday last. The deceased, who was working up to Tuesday evening, was 52 years of age, and with his eldest brother Charles founded the business about 35 years ago.

The late Mr. Fox made wigs for and assisted in the make-up of most of our leading actors, and was associated with all Sir Henry Irving's productions at the Lyceum, all the wigs used by Sir Henry being made by him. One of his recent make-ups was that of Mr. Arthur Bourchier as King Henry VIII.

Mr. Fox was a special favourite with London amateurs, whom he personally attended, and by whom he will be greatly missed. He leaves a wife and family, one son serving in the Artillery. The funeral takes place to-day.

PANTOMIME GOSSIP.

The Bath pantomime, "Aladdin," will run for four weeks, and then go on tour. Mr. Fred Clements is responsible for the production, the book is by Mr. William Holland, and the music is composed by Mr. Claffin Baxter and Mr. Chas. Pearson. Miss Mabel Hind will play Aladdin, Mr. Rob. Currie Widow Twankey, Mr. Fred Hutchings Abanazar, the Bros. Valdo policemen, Mr. Ted E. Rose Wishee Washee, and Mr. Chas. Steane Emperor. The specialities include the Twelve Sunbeams and the Four Nations (dancers), with Little Emmie as principal dancer.

The pantomime at the Royal Opera House, Leicester, will be "Humpty Dumpty," and will be presented by F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath on Boxing afternoon. The cast includes Beatrice Read, Volet Parry, Marie Stella, Margaret Carter, Alice Manners, the Merry Macs Octette, Jess Sweet, Mark Henry, Chas. Goff, Chas. Seymour, and Toch and Tard.

"Cinderella" is the Yuletide attraction at the Artillery Theatre, Woolwich. The cast is headed by Miss Lily Ennis as Prince Perfect; Mr. Jack Crichton is Pimples, the page; Messrs. Billy Wesley and Jackson Collis are the two Ugly Sisters; Miss Florrie Lewis is the Fairy Sunbeam; Miss Ada Tyrral is Dandini; and Miss Ruth Shannon in the title-rôle. The specialities include Norman and Langford, Moy and Bell, Bob Lisando, Douglas and Mona Langford, and Wallace.

Miss Rénée Reel, the principal girl at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, whose portrait appears on another page, was engaged over two years ago by Mr. Frohman to appear in New York at the Knickerbocker Theatre. This engagement was for eight weeks. So successful was she that upon her first appearance her engagement was extended two years, and could have been prolonged. Miss Reel had, however, before sailing for America, contracted to appear in the Brighton (Theatre Royal) pantomime for this year, and determined, at considerable sacrifice, to keep her word and brave the Atlantic. She had to travel from Kansas City, U.S.A., and arrived in time for the first rehearsal on Monday. Miss Reel, who is still in her teens, has been on the stage from early childhood.

The name of Little Myra Rosalind, the girl Babe in the panto at the Glasgow Theatre Royal, recalls the interesting fact that she represents the fourth generation of a theatrical stock familiar to many middle-aged playgoers there. She is the daughter of Mr. Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie, stage manager of the panto at the Royal; her grandmother was Miss Myra Rosalind (Mrs. John J. Lloyd), remembered in Glasgow as principal boy in panto in the Grand Theatre and the old Globe in Tobago street; and this lady was the daughter of that famous showman, David Prince Miller.

"The ERA" Christmas Card.

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE PROFESSION.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Proprietors of "*The Era*," I take this opportunity of thanking you for your generous support throughout the strenuous year through which we have passed. May your Christmas be a pleasant one, and the New Year happier than that now closing.

Yours faithfully,
W. F. BENNETT,
Advertisement Manager.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting, held yesterday at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. A. Harding Steerman (in the chair), Messrs. H. Mote (hon. solicitor), C. V. France, Edgar E. Payne, Edmund Kennedy, Percy Keitley, James Gelderd, Misses Georgia Drayson, Lisa Coleman, and Mr. Adnam Sprange (secretary).

It was resolved that a vote of condolence be sent to the relatives of the late Mrs. E. H. Brooke.

The hon. solicitor reported on four cases, and stated that two actions they had brought against managers had been settled by payment of compensation, and that they had obtained during the week two judgments in favour of members of the Association in actions brought against managers.

The various reports were read and adopted. The rooms will be closed on Christmas Eve at 4 p.m., and open again on Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock.

Nominations.—Vera McCallum, May Morton, Ernest A. E. Plumpton, John Edward Martin, Yorke Richardson, Mary Erwin.

Elections.—Hayford Hobbs, Margaret Stuart, Henry Millar, Raphaily de Pau, Yvonne d'Artigny, Henry Daniell.

By command, a special matinée of "L'Enfant Prodigue," with the original cast, has been arranged to take place at His Majesty's Theatre on Wednesday next. By special request, Mr. Landon Ronald will play the important piano part.

Although Mr. Joseph Wilson tendered his resignation of the post of acting manager of the Playhouse to Mr. André Charlot last Saturday, he has not, as some appear to think, left the theatre. He will be there for quite another week "clearing up" matters so as to make ready for his successor.

HELP FOR THE HOMELESS CHILDREN OF SERBIA.

The children of Britain are going to found a home in Serbia where the poor little orphans whose parents have been killed owing to the war will be taken care of. To help the fund Mr. James Buckland is giving a juvenile lecture on Jan. 4, at 3.30 p.m. at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole. The lecture will be about the home life of interesting and beautiful birds of other lands, and will be illustrated by numerous coloured lantern slides. The Earl of Desart will take the chair. Tickets, 5s. each, may be obtained from Mrs. James Buckland, 29, St. Thomas's Mansions, Westminster Bridge, and from all the usual agencies.

To the many local efforts in aid of the British Red Cross Society, the Ryder Boys Old English Comedy Company (Manchester) added a performance of Sheridan's comedy, "The Rivals," on Wednesday last, at the Stratford Town Hall, for the benefit of Victoria Park Hospital. A remarkably fine rendering was given, Mr. Ryder Boys himself sustaining the rôle of Sir Anthony Absolute, with Mr. H. Worrall-Thompson as the Captain, Mr. Stanley Birtwistle as Acres, and Mr. W. Henry Williams as a perfect Sir Lucius O'Trigger. Nor was anything lacking in the impersonations of Faulkland, Fag, and David by Messrs. Berton Grantham, John Mort, and Tom Shanks; while Miss Una Rashleigh played Mrs. Malaprop effectively. Miss Florence Johnson made a charming Lydia, Miss Alice MacLean was neat and pleasing as Julia, and a fresh and vivacious rendering of Lucy was given by Miss Kathleen Fletcher.

A copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for Twopence Halfpenny.

CALLS for Monday, Dec. 20

and during the Week at

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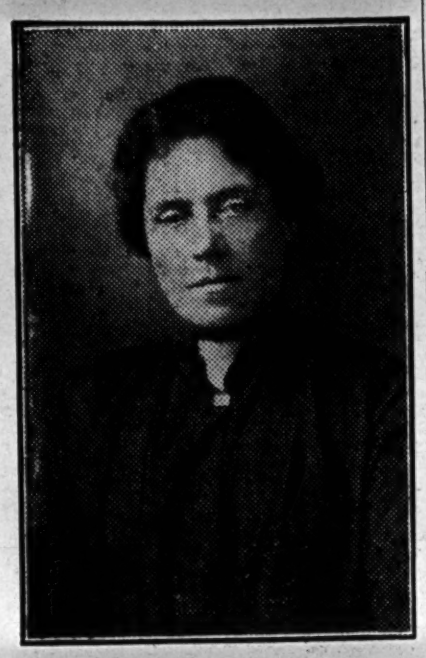
THE DRAMATIC YEAR.

By MABEL KOOPMAN.

Contemplating the year 1915 from the theatrical point of view, I am particularly struck by the queerness of things in the theatres, caused by the



[Photo by Hana.

MRS. KOOPMAN.

present crisis. Everything seems topsy-turvy. The theatre, essentially a thing of the dark hours of the night, a source of relaxation and fresh direction of thought to the jaded workers (both of business and pleasure) of the day, has now become an afternoon recreation for wounded soldiers and their friends.

Matinées have been the big thing this year, there have been dozens and dozens of them, every one, I think, without exception, in aid of some war fund or another. No, there was one glorious exception, the Royal Command Performance of "Henry VIII.," held on June 9 at His Majesty's Theatre, in aid of King George's Pension Fund for Actors and Actresses. Never was an exception more splendidly justified, for no section of society has given its time, its talent, its money, more generously, eagerly, and whole-heartedly for the public welfare than the actors and actresses of Great Britain. And the "stranger within our gates," the Americans, the French, the Belgians, the Russians, all the Allied artistes, have "done their bit" with the same soul-stirring readiness, and have made us feel, players and audience alike, that though they came as strangers, they leave as old and valued friends.

The sight of the wounded Tommies at the matinées has been infinitely pathetic. At first they were accorded the seats of honour—the front rows of the stalls or the dress circle—but it soon became manifest that they were not at home in the "seats of the mighty," and although they ate the teas and pocketed the cigarettes and chocolates showered on them by the well-meaning, they did so silently, almost morosely, and attempts at conversation met with no success. When the pit or gallery was given up to the wounded heroes, they were in their element, and laughed and shouted, and made cheery and direct comments, to the huge delight of the rest of the house. I remember the laughter and applause that greeted the remark of a soldier, with much bandaged head, at an "All-Sketch Matinée," towards the end of July, held at the Queen's Theatre, in aid of the interned soldiers, sailors and airmen in Holland. Mr. Jerome K. Jerome's one-act play, "The Three Patriots," was being performed. In it two old friends, one English, the other German, have met, both wounded, in a cowshed "somewhere in France," and the Englishman, chipping his old pal, tells him "You beggars can't shoot straight." From the pit came a voice full of simple, deep feeling, "Don't you believe it." He had had some, poor dear, he *knew*.

Unintentionally the presence of these men in the theatre must have had a decided influence on recruiting. I have heard men say at these matinées, married men, above the age limit, "It makes me long to be out there, fighting," and another, physically incapacitated, wrote: "I enjoyed the 'Big Drum' very much yesterday, despite the fact that a whole row of stalls had been presented to wounded Tommies, who somehow brought the flavour of war into the theatre and made me feel as if I ought to have been elsewhere doing my bit."

It is extraordinary that when I sit down to write about the theatre, the delightful, fascinating, absorbing Theatre, with a capital T, that I love, the soldiers come along first of all, and for the moment blot out the plays and the players. I think it is because we are all living to-day in a world of terrible, intensest reality, and that the mimic representations of the stage are not beheld in their just proportions, they are belittled by the overwhelming catastrophe of the World-War.

The "flavour of war" is everywhere, dominating, tainting, cleansing every other flavour of life. Sir Arthur Pinero acknowledges its influence in a foreword to his solitary contribution to the drama of the year, "The Big Drum," which has had a fair measure of success at the St. James's Theatre. Our leading dramatist describes his play as "a picture of manners that have become remote, and of certain little weaknesses and follies which we are told have yielded to the chastening influences of the times and finally passed away."

Here is a Pinero pen-picture of the world of society in the faraway days before the war:—

"It shows a vast crowd of men and women, forcing themselves upon public attention without a shred of modesty, fighting to obtain it, as they are fighting for bread and meat. It shows how dignity and reserve have been cast aside as virtues that are antiquated and outworn until half the world—the world that should be orderly, harmonious, beautiful—has become an arena for the exhibition of vulgar ostentation or almost supreme egoism—a cockpit resounding with raucous voices, bellowing one against the other.

"It shows the bishop and the judge playing to the gallery, the politician adopting the methods of the cheapjack, the duchess vying with the puffing draper; it shows how even true genius submits itself to conditions that are accepted and excused as 'modern,' and is found elbowing and pushing in the hurly-burly. It shows how the ordinary decencies of life are sacrificed to the paragraphist, the interviewer, and the ghoul with the camera: how the home is stripped of its sanctity, blessed charity made a vehicle for display, the very graveyard transformed into a parade ground, while the outsider looks on with a sinking of the vitals because the drumstick is beyond his reach, and the bom-bom-bom is not for *him*."

Sir George Alexander has produced three other works by modern dramatists at the St. James's Theatre this year, "Kings and Queens," by Rudolf Besier, "The Panorama of Youth," by J. Hartley Manners, and "The Day Before the Day," by C. B. Fernald. Of the last-named I need not write, it was entirely unworthy of the St. James's, and its short run was one more proof that war-plays are unpalatable

In Mr. Besier's play, rules for the guidance of royalties are laid down, an original idea of some piquancy. King Richard is speaking. He says: "I believe . . . that the special position entrusted to me as King can only be justified by special merit, and that supreme rule means supreme example. 'The King stands before the law' is just another way of saying that he's the one man who implicitly obeys the law. He should have so ordered his life that nothing he may think or say or do can transgress in the very least the law of God or man."

Poor great ones of the earth, it makes one feel horribly sorry for them. It is only fair to Mr. Besier to say that he concludes his speech with the words: "That's human perfection, and, of course, impossible to realise."

Another interesting bit in "Kings and Queens" is a judgment on men put into the mouth of the very human Queen Charlette, as it shows what men (as personified by Mr. Besier) think that women think about men (this requires a little concentration of thought). Charlotte "divides men roughly into two groups, number one—those who are fond of women, and of whom women are fond; number two—those who love a woman, and whom a woman loves. Number one understands as far as a man ever understands a woman, but he doesn't take us seriously, he never falls in love with us, and we never fall in love with him. Consequently, we aren't afraid of him, and we make him our confidant, and go to him in our troubles. Number two doesn't understand us in the least; he takes us dead seriously, falls in love with us, and we fall in love with him. Consequently we're afraid of him, and would never dream of going to him with our troubles, as he wouldn't understand them."

Of the truth of this I leave women to judge.

Mr. Hartley Manners' "Panorama of Youth" is another "woman drama" (the number of woman dramas at the present time is full of significance). In it he draws a picture of the divorced woman, from the conventional man's point of view.

"Such women are the curse of mankind. Thieves of honour. Selfish to the core. Rotten at heart. They take a man's life and make a wreck of it. Their children's too. No words are too bitter to characterise such creatures. But they carry their curse with them. They may not see or hear the anguish of their victims, but, waking or sleeping, the souls they have outraged whisper to them, and in the silence of the night they wail pitifully for justice on them. And justice is meted out to them. They can't escape it."

Two plays of the year, "Quinneys'" by Horace Annesley Vachell, and "Romance," by Edward Sheldon, owe a large percentage of their success to the remarkably clever acting of Mr. Henry Ainley and Miss Doris Keane. To Mr. Ainley I should unhesitatingly give the prize, had I one to give, for the best piece of acting of 1915. I have only one fear, that he will find it of extreme difficulty to rid himself in future parts of the strongly-marked characteristics of Joe Quinney. The last time I saw him in the part, not very long ago, I was constantly afraid that he was going to overdo the acting, exactly the same sort of fear that I felt towards the end of the run of "The Great Adventure," when Mr. Ainley developed an inclination to exaggerate the peculiarities of Ilam Carve, a character akin to, yet made by the actor subtly different from, Mr. Vachell's North-countryman.

Miss Doris Keane has won the unstinted praise of the critics for her performance of the Italian-American prima-donna in Mr. Sheldon's romantic play. I have not forgotten her impersonation of the girl—Rachel, I think was her name—in Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's play, "The Hypocrites," seen in England some time in 1907, but I should like to see her in other parts before I can judge if her Cavallini is a success of personality or of acting.

Mr. H. A. Vachell can claim to be the chief dramatist of the year. Three plays from his pen have been produced, "Quinneys'," "Searchlights," and "The Case of Lady Camber," all three good, thoughtful, interesting works. Of "Quinneys'" I have already spoken, both here and in an article on the Theatrical Season, published in this paper on July 28 of this year, in which "Searchlights" was also mentioned. In this, and in Mr. Vachell's third play, "The Case of Lady Camber," the dramatist has had the invaluable help of Mr. H. B. Irving, who played the principal male character in both, in the first a stern, hard man of extreme reticence, ambitious and proud; in the second a doctor, a specialist, also reticent, ambitious and proud. I have been told by a doctor-friend (like most doctors an enthusiastic lover of the theatre), that Mr. H. B. Irving and Mr. Holman Clarke are, from the professional point of view, the most realistic stage doctors he has seen. He tells me further that the technical details of the play, as well as its other merits, interest him so profoundly that he has already seen it three times, and intends to go again. He likes Miss Jessie Winter's nurse very much, and finds her unprofessional in one instance only. Mr. Vachell's fourth play, "Who Is He?" does not, and is not, I think, intended to bear comparison with his other work.

At His Majesty's, Sir Herbert Tree began, and is ending, the year with his chief successes, "David Copperfield" and "Mavourneen," the former adapted for the stage by Mr. Louis N. Parker, and the latter an original production by the same dramatist, in which Miss Lily Elsie has made a highly popular return to the stage. Neither of the intervening plays, "The Right to Kill," an adaptation from the French, or "Marie-Odile," by Edward Knoblauch, can be ranked as successes, though both were interesting, the first as a problem, the second as a delicately-drawn study of a convent-bred girl, whose ignorance overstrained the credulity of most of the critics. His Majesty's has been the scene of some notable matinées this year, of which the most important, from the point of view of the theatre, was the performance on July 23 of Mr. George du Maurier's "Peter Ibbetson," particularly well adapted for the stage by Mr. John N. Raphael. The play impressed me very much, and the pathetic acting of Mr. Owen Nares as the hero moved me profoundly. I consider it is quite the best work Mr. Nares has done up to the present. Hopes were held out that "Peter Ibbetson" would be seen again in London in the autumn, but they did not materialise.

Among the plays that deserved a longer life I should put "Marie-Odile," "Advertisement," "The Dummy," "Iris Intervenes," and "The Argyle Case." Of these I should place "Advertisement," by Basil Macdonald Hastings, first. It dealt with a mixed marriage, an alliance between a Christian and a Jew. That the play was a failure in London is probably accounted for by the fact that the characters were unsympathetic, and that one scene, in which the father seeks to make advertisement out of the death of his son, was repulsive.

There are certain points of similarity between Mr. Hastings' "Advertisement" and Mr. Vachell's "Searchlights." In both plays a beautiful, attractive woman of about forty is married to a husband possessed of sterling qualities, but whom she finds unsympathetic. Each woman is devoted to her son, a youth in early manhood, and in each case the husband discovers about twenty years after the birth of the son that he is not the father. The two plays end with the reconciliation on a basis of completer understanding of the man and his wife. Both wives have been in love with another man before marriage, and have been driven into his arms after marriage by the husband's complete immersion in business.

The women's justification of their act is practically the same. The wife in "Searchlights" says: "I thought I was to count for something in your life. I was mistaken. Day after day I scarcely saw you. I was alone. Arthur Trevor came back. I implored you to take me away. And then Harry was born. Arthur Trevor went back to India. I never saw him again."

In "Advertisement" the wife's words are: "We were happy only for a poor little two years. Then the demon of lust—lust for wealth and power—possessed you. That demon destroyed the angel in you. You drove me out. You little knew what punishment that act would bring upon me. Can't you realise what agony your society constantly causes me? You, whose soul was once in the finer things of life, now revelling in money. Can't you guess how I despise myself for failing to save you for the better life for which, before God, you were made."

(*To be continued.*)

THE MUSIC OF THE YEAR.

By KATE SEARLE.

Just about the time when the Germans in the Fatherland began to gnash their teeth to the tune of the "Hymn of Hate," we were holding a Festival of German music at Queen's Hall. Some of us pointed to the fact with pride, as evidence of our magnanimity. Others said it showed that we have no national backbone worth mentioning. The controversy as to whether we should, or should not, listen to music made by Germans, dead or living, has raged spasmodically throughout the year, enlivened by one or two quite dramatic incidents. A popular singer, put down for a Wagner aria at a big concert, publicly refused to perform at the last moment, and the supporting orchestra followed suit. The protest was probably provoked by some flagrant act of tyranny on the part of our enemies, but why single Wagner out for a demonstration?—Wagner, the anti-Prussian revolutionist of '48, the arch-democrat, the passionate advocate for freedom for every individual under the sun.

As usual, the vexed question has been practically settled by the public. Speaking generally, it has given relatively strong support to performances of the music of the great German masters. Beethoven symphony concerts and Wagner afternoons and evenings at the Promenades attracted the best audiences of the season.

At no series of concerts have the audiences been as good as might have been expected, even in this year of uncertainties. The season of Promenade Concerts at the Albert Hall in May and June, organised and directed by Mr. Landon Ronald and Mr. Thomas Beecham, artistically fine though they were, attracted a sparse public. Compositions by Germans were excluded from the scheme. In all the twenty-four concerts not one German work, ancient or modern, found a place, but interest and variety were not lacking on that account. Not less than twenty British modern composers were represented. The rest of the works performed were by modern French and Russian composers: Tschaikovsky, Balakireff, Moussorgsky, Rimsky-Korsakoff, Rachmaninoff, Ravel, Délibes, Massenet, D'Indy, &c.

"Grand" Opera in English.

The musical venture that has met with unqualified success is "grand" opera in English.

This is true not only of the two flourishing seasons at the Shaftesbury Theatre. Apart from the great doings at the "Old Vic."—where, under Miss Baylis' banner, opera is the daily fare throughout most of the year—four opera companies—the Carl Rosa, the Moody-Manners, the O'Mara Co., and the Harrison-Frewin Co.—have been busily touring the provinces, every one of them with splendid business to its credit. One of these companies visited the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, in October, and took the astonishing amount of £1,100 for eight performances. The operas that brought all this grist to the mill were "The Tales of Hoffmann," "The Magic Flute," "Il Trovatore," "Carmen," "Aïda," "Faust," and "The Bohemian Girl."

It should not go unrecorded that Mr. Charles Manners, always ready to encourage native talent, has produced another opera by Mr. Colin McAlpin called "The Vow." The libretto is founded upon the Biblical story of Jephtha's daughter. Mr. McAlpin is the composer of "The Cross and the Crescent," produced some years ago by Mr. Manners.

At the Shaftesbury, Mr. Courtneidge's first season lasted for fifteen weeks, the second for ten weeks. Not a bad record for opera in the vernacular—the Cinderella of the family.

The musical "highbrows" are seriously disturbed at this state of things. The critic of a London paper has been airing a lament in the columns of an American journal. He has "lost heart" because the public won't go, as it used, to the Promenades "to listen to fine music uncommonly well played by Sir Henry Wood's orchestra," and it *will* go to hear "Gounod's platitudes in 'Romeo and Juliet'" and the "dainty but paltry 'Madama Butterfly.'" From this it might be inferred that the public that in pre-war times used to flock to symphony concerts is off with the old love and on with the new. That, however, is not the case. The public for opera in English is, at present, not the public of classical concerts. The fact is that a large proportion of erstwhile devotees of classical music have given up concert-going; and this at a time when music should be more than ever a solace and a relaxation. It hurts our national pride to confess it, but perhaps, in the main, we are not intellectually capable of a sincere passion for, or comprehension of, the highest forms of music. We are not a thinking, philosophic people. We are, and always have been, a race of doers.

On the other hand, the awakening interest in music drama among the masses may be a healthy sign. Emotionally stirred as they have not been for centuries, they are reverting to the art-form instinctive in them. In the days when England really was a musical country, under the Tudors and the Stuarts, the delight of the people was in the masque and the pageant, the folk-song, and most of all in the folk-dances, that were a hundred times more dramatically expressive than the Russian ballet we all go mad about now. The Puritans put a stop to all that. Then came the Hanoverian visitation, from which we seem fated never to be able to free ourselves. The Hanoverians grafted the unctuous growth of oratorio on to the Puritan psalm-singing stump. Our musical efflorescence has been blighted ever since. It is characteristic of us that while we strain at the secular Wagnerian gnat, we not only swallow the sacred Handelian camel whole, but smack our lips sanctimoniously over it.

The cult of oratorio has been the strongest movement in music for centuries, because, like every movement of national importance in any direction, it has owed its sustenance to the masses. Think of it. The English middle-classes have been singing Handel for a hundred and fifty years. And they are still at it all over the country at this very moment, although there are signs that its influence is on the wane. Isn't it time they had a change? Certain it is that something or another they will sing. To paraphrase the historic remark made by Mr. John Freund, the editor of "Musical America," anent America's recent vocal spurt, "England, my boy, was born singing choruses, and all h—ll can't stop her." Why should not the great choral bodies turn their enthusiasm and their well-trained abilities into another channel?

The fostering of music drama will develop our good points and get rid of much that is conventional, dull, insincere. If it succeeds in ousting oratorio, so much the better. The two are so strongly opposed that they will scarcely be able to exist side by side.

(*To be continued.*)

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ON THE ROAD.

Abbott, Ernest.—Dec. 27, T.R., Stratford; Jan. 3, V., Eastleigh.
Aladdin (Egbert).—Dec. 27, Grand, Clapham, S.W.
Alias Jimmy Valentine.—Dec. 27, T.R., Limerick; Jan. 3, Pav., Weymouth.
Ann.—Dec. 20 Emp., Kingston.
Are You a Mason?—Dec. 20, Pal., Watford.
Babes in the Wood (Slaughter).—Dec. 27, H., Richmond.
Babes in the Wood (Scott).—Dec. 20, Hippo., Middlesbrough.
Beauty and the Beast.—Dec. 20, T.R., North Shields; 27, Grand, Falkirk.
Betty (South).—Dec. 27, Grand, Southampton; Jan. 3, P.G., Folkestone.
Brave Women—Who Wait.—Dec. 20, Met., Glasgow.
Bride of the Battlefield.—Dec. 20, O.H., Coventry; 27, T.R., Macclesfield.
Broadway Jones.—Dec. 20, Emp., Finsbury Park, N.
Cassidy, Mr. and Mrs. J. Rice.—Dec. 20, Princes, Blackburn.
Cinderella (Russell).—Dec. 20, Tivoli, Hull.
Cinderella.—Dec. 20, Grand, Nottingham.
Cinderella.—Dec. 27, Palladium, W. (matinées).
Cinderella.—Dec. 27, Lyric, Hammersmith.
Cinderella (Armstrong).—Dec. 27, Emp., Dublin.
Cinderella (Kiddie's).—Dec. 27, Artillery, Woolwich.
Cinderella.—Dec. 27, Lyceum, Newport.
David Copperfield.—Dec. 20, King's, Greenock.
Devil's Rosary.—Dec. 20, Elephant and Castle, S.E.
Dick Whittington (Egbert).—Dec. 27, H., Lewisham, S.E.
Dick Whittington (McKelvie).—Dec. 20, Pal., Aberdeen.
Dick Whittington (Stewart).—Dec. 20, King's, Edinburgh.
Dick Whittington (Welman),—Dec. 20, Imp., Canning Town, E.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Dec. 20, H.M., Dundee; 27, H.M., Dundee.
Eliza Comes to Stay (Seddon).—Dec. 20, T.R., Lincoln; Jan. 3 Peterborough (3), Goole (3).
Face at the Window.—Dec. 20 Alex., Widnes.
Fatal Wedding.—Dec. 20, O.H., Wakefield; 27, T.R., Darwen.
Florodora (No. 1).—Dec. 27, Alex., Hull; Jan. 3, Lyceum, Sheffield.
For Auld Lang Syne.—Dec. 20, King's, Gateshead.
Forty Thieves, The.—Dec. 20, Regent, Salford.
Gates of Mercy.—Dec. 20, T.R., Barnsley; Jan. 3, T.R., West Bromwich.
Geisha.—Dec. 27, West Hartlepool.
Girl in the Taxi (Red).—Dec. 27, P.O.W., Grimsby; Jan. 3, O.H., Harrogate.
Girl Who Waits at Home.—Dec. 20, Stoke.
Goody Two Shoes (Gordon).—Jan. 3, Derby.
Goody Two Shoes.—Dec. 20, Prince's, Bristol.
Goody Two Shoes.—Dec. 27, Emp., Kilburn.
Grumpy (Windermere).—Dec. 27, Town H., Stourbridge; Jan. 3, New, Salisbury.
Harrison Frewin Opera Co.—Dec. 27, O.H., Middlesbrough; Jan. 3, O.H., Middlesbrough.
Her Great Love.—Dec. 20, T.R., Bolton.
Her Sailor Lover.—Dec. 20, Hippo., Mexborough.
His Mother's Boy.—Jan. 3, T.R., Leicester.
His Mother's Rosary.—Dec. 20, T.R., Chatham; 27, Arcadia, Spennymoor.
Idol of Kano.—Dec. 20, T.R., Bath.
Indian Girl's Devotion.—Dec. 20, King's, Colne.
In the Hands of the Huns.—Dec. 20, Osborne, Manchester.
Jack and the Beanstalk (Frederick's).—Dec. 27, Great Malvern (3), Hereford (3); Jan. 3, Leominster (3), Abergavenny (3).
Jack and Jill (Forde).—Dec. 20, Pal., Blackpool.
Jenny Omroyd.—Dec. 20, T.R., Bradford; 27, Alh., Stourbridge.
John Raymond's Daughter.—Dec. 20, T.R., South Shields; 27, T.R., Aston.
Kismet.—Dec. 27, T.R., Barnsley; Jan. 3, T.R., Birkenhead.
Light Blues, The.—Dec. 20, Lyceum, Edinburgh.
Little Boy Blue (Minshull).—Dec. 20, T.R., Edinburgh.
Little Grey Home in the West (North).—
Little Tommy Tucker.—Dec. 20, Emp., Shepherd's Bush, W.
London Actress.—Dec. 27, Pal., Barnoldswick.
Mary from Tipperary.—Dec. 27, Stockton-on-Tees.
Mary Latimer—Nun.—Dec. 20, County Hall, St. Albans.
Message from Mars.—Dec. 20, Paisley; 27, Perth.
Midsummer Night's Dream.—Dec. 27, Royal Court T., S.W.
Mill Girl's Wedding.—Dec. 20, T.R., Woolwich; 27, New, Bargoed.
Milane, Joseph.—Dec. 20, Queen's, Poplar.
Miss Hook of Holland.—Dec. 27, P.G., Folkestone.
Miss Lancashire, Limited.—Dec. 27, Grand, Doncaster; Jan. 3, Pal., Newcastle.
Mr. Wu.—Dec. 20, Aldershot.
Motherless Mite.—Dec. 20, Pal., Newcastle; Jan. 3, Pal., Rochdale.
Neill, Sinclair.—Dec. 27, H., Nottingham; Jan. 3, Pal., Glossop.
Old Home.—Dec. 20, Pal., Gloucester; 27, Emp., Cradley Heath.
Old Rossiry, The.—Dec. 20, Hippo., Rugby.
Only Girl.—Dec. 20, Pal., Manchester.
Passers By.—Dec. 20, Queen's, Leeds.
Peg o' My Heart.—Dec. 27, Royalty, Morecambe (4); Jan. 1, Stirling (4).
Pet of the Ranch.—Dec. 20, Gaiety, Houghton-le-Spring.
Pitman's Daughters.—Dec. 20, T.R., Darlington; 27, Pav., Bridlington.
Potash and Perlmutter (Grossmith).—Dec. 27, Lyceum, Sheffield; Jan. 3, T.R., Bradford.
Prodigal Parson.—Dec. 20, King's, Colne.
Quaker Girl.—Dec. 27, H.M., Carlisle.
Red Riding Hood (Caine).—Dec. 20, Junc., Manchester.
Red Riding Hood (Forde).—Dec. 20, Pav., Ayr.
Red Riding Hood.—Dec. 27, Grand, Croydon.
Ridding Opera Co.—Dec. 20, Tivoli, Aberdeen; 27, Theatre, Inverness.
Robinson Crusoe (Egbert).—Dec. 27, T.R., Windsor.
Robinson Crusoe (Tiller).—Dec. 20, Pav., Liverpool.
Rosary (Personal).—Dec. 20, Grand, Southampton; 27, T.R., Colchester.
Rosary (No. 1 R).—Dec. 20, T.R., Jarrow; 27, T.R., South Shields.
Sealed Orders.—Dec. 27, Grand, Swansea; Jan. 3, Grand, Swansea.
Second Mrs. Tanqueray.—Dec. 20, T.R., Barrow.
Sinbad the Sailor (McKelvie).—Dec. 20, Grand, Falkirk.
Soggarth Aroon.—Jan. 3, Town Hall, Newry.
Somewhere a Voice is Calling.—Dec. 20, Met., Manchester.
Still Alarm.—Dec. 20, T.R., Leamington; 27, County, St. Albans.
Tina.—Dec. 20 King's, Glasgow.
To-night's the Night.—Dec. 27, T.R., Newcastle; Jan. 3, T.R., Newcastle.
Turner Opera Co.—Dec. 20, Hippo., Batley.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Dec. 20, Pal., Rochdale; 27, Pal., Rochdale.
Unknown Quantity.—Dec. 20, Royalty, Barrow.
Vicar's Wife, The.—Dec. 20, Hippo., Salford.
What the Butler Saw.—Dec. 20, Emp., Swindon.
White Girl Slave.—Dec. 20, Hippo., Mansfield; 27, Emp., Newton Abbot.
Woman Pays Back.—Dec. 20, T.R., Castleford; 27, Tyldesley.
Woman's Honour.—Dec. 27, Pal., Tow Law.
Wonderful Whittington (Welman).—Dec. 20, Imp., Canning Town; 27, T.R., Woolwich.

REVUES.

All Aboard.—Dec. 20, Emp., Tonypandy; 27, Grand, Pentre.
All Eyes.—Dec. 20, Shoreditch, E.
All Square.—Dec. 20, Alh., Leith.
All Women.—Dec. 20, Emp., Edinburgh.
And the Answer Is a Lemon.—Dec. 20, Met., Gateshead
Beauties.—Dec. 20, Emp., Bradford; 27, Emp., Nottingham.
Beauty Spot.—Dec. 20, Coliseum, Portsmouth.
Brides.—Dec. 20, Hippo., Golder's Green, N.W.
Charlie Chaplin Mad.—Dec. 20, Camberwell, S.E.
Chutney.—Dec. 20, T.R., Dublin.
Charlie on the Spree.—Dec. 20, Hippo., Altrincham.
Cheer Up.—Dec. 20, H., Ilford.
Come In, Miss.—Dec. 20, Pal., Tottenham, N.; 27, Pal., Southport.
D. D. D.—Dec. 20, Garrison, Tidworth; 27, Col., Bury St. Edmunds.
Devonshire Girl, The.—Dec. 20, Hippo., Aston.
Don't be Jealous.—Dec. 20, Alh., Barnsley.
Don't Crush.—Dec. 20, Grand, Birmingham.
Don't Crush.—Dec. 20, Emp., Norwich; 27, Emp., Wolverhampton.
Don't Tempt Me.—Dec. 27, Emp., Finsbury Park, N.
Dream Girl.—Dec. 20, Grand, Bolton.
Ducks and Quacks.—Dec. 20, Surrey T.
Dutch Hussars.—Dec. 20, New Middlesex, W.C.
Ever Been Had?—Dec. 20, Emp., Camberwell, S.E.; 27, Col., Portsmouth.
Find the Lady.—Dec. 20, King's, Manchester.
Fine Feathers.—Dec. 20, Pal., Plymouth.
Follow Me.—Dec. 20, Pal., Ramsgate.
Frills and Fancies.—Dec. 20, H., Eastbourne.
Good Evening!—Dec. 27, Pal., Hull; Jan. 3, Emp., Sheffield.
Have a Guess.—Dec. 20, Emp., West Hartlepool.
Heave O!—Dec. 27, King's, Dundee; Jan. 3, H., Nottingham.
Higgledy Piggledy.—Dec. 27, Rep., Liverpool.
High Explosives.—Dec. 20, Colchester.
Hot and Cold.—Dec. 20, Grand, Clapham, S.W.
Hullo! Everybody.—Dec. 20, Emp., Holborn, W.C.
Hullo! Boscombe.—Jan. 3, H., Boscombe.
Hurry Along, Please.—Dec. 20, Scala, Seacombe.
I'll Bet You.—Dec. 20, O.H., Scarborough.
Irish and Proud of It.—Jan. 3, Emp., New Cross, S.E.
It'll Tickle.—Dec. 20, H., Balham, S.W.
It's It!—Dec. 20, Leicester.
It's Up to You.—Dec. 20, Blackburn.
It's Warm.—Dec. 20, Pal., Glossop.
June in Japan.—Dec. 20, Emp., Chelmsford.
Keep Off the Grass.—Dec. 20, Pal., Chatham.
Keep to the Right.—Dec. 20, Emp., Nottingham.
Keep Going.—Dec. 20, Hartlepool.
Kiss Auntie!—Dec. 20, Oxford, W.
Kiss Me, Sergeant.—Dec. 20, Hippo., Belfast.
Lancashire, and Proud of It.—Dec. 20, Emp., Preston; 27, Alex., Widnes.
Le Moulin Rouge.—Dec. 20, Alh., Bradford.
Le Petit Cabaret.—Dec. 20, H., Newcastle; 27, Lyceum, Govan.
Lime Light.—Dec. 20, Emp., Penge.
Look Out!—Dec. 20, Emp., South Shields; 27, Emp., Sunderland.
Love Birds.—Dec. 20, Emp., Belfast.
Made in England.—Jan. 3, W.G., New Brighton.
Merry Moments.—Dec. 27, H., Sheffield.
Million Dollar Girl.—Dec. 20, H., Brighton.
Money Girl, The.—Dec. 20, Pav., Stafford.
Passing Events.—Dec. 20, H., Woolwich; 27, W.G., New Brighton.
Passing Show (Baugh).—Dec. 20, Miners', Ashington.
Passing Show.—Dec. 20, Alh., Glasgow.
Peaches.—Dec. 20, Palladium, W.
Percy Honri's "1915" Revue.—Dec. 20, Col., Glasgow; 27, Emp., Edinburgh.
Pillar to Post.—Dec. 20, Alex., Pontefract.
Push and Go.—Dec. 20, Pal., Hammersmith, W.
Radium Girl.—Dec. 20, Emp., Middlesbrough; 27, H., Southampton.
Red Heads.—Dec. 20, Swindon.
Red Heads (No. 1).—Dec. 20, H., Preston; 27, Emp., Sheffield.
Search Me.—Dec. 20, Playhouse, Wakefield.
Sheba.—Dec. 20, T.R., Worcester; Jan. 3, Alh., Stourbridge.
Shell Out!—Dec. 20, Reading; 27, Emp., Leeds.
Sign, Please.—Dec. 20, H., Aldershot.
Smile, Please.—Dec. 20, Tivoli, New Brighton.
S'nice.—Dec. 27, H., Rotherhithe; Jan. 3, H., Balham, S.W.
Splash Me.—Dec. 20, T.R., Guildford; 27, Revue, Kingston.
Step This Way.—Dec. 20, Emp., Wolverhampton.
Sugar and Spice.—Dec. 20, Emp., Ardwick.
This is the Life.—Dec. 20, H., Boscombe; 27, H., Southend.
Tit-Bits.—Dec. 20, Emp., Sunderland.
Town Topics.—Dec. 20, Hippo., Nottingham.
Violet and Pink.—Dec. 20, Ashton-under-Lyne.
Wait and See.—Dec. 20, H., Sheffield.
What a Night!—Dec. 20, Lyric, Hammersmith, W.
When Irish Eyes are Smiling.—Dec. 20, Grand, Luton.
Whirl of the Town.—Dec. 20, Emp., Stratford.
Who's Who.—Dec. 20, Pal., Reading.
Why, Certainly!—Dec. 20, Hippo., Bishop Auckland.
Would You Believe It?—Dec. 20, H., Keighley.
Yes, I Think So.—Dec. 20, York.
Year in an Hour.—Dec. 20, Hippo., Southampton.

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"KEEP YOUR SEATS."

At the Bloomsbury County Court, on Tuesday, Judge Bray had before him a claim brought by a number of artistes for salary and railway fares. The plaintiffs were Misses Queenie Hall, Madeline Hall, Gladys Finch, Daisy Kennedy, and Gladys J. L. Wood, and they sued Mr. J. de Bruyn, of Regent-street, for £18 5s. arrears of salary due under a contract in May for appearance in a revue, "Keep Your Seats!" at Aston, and railway fares from Newcastle-on-Tyne.

A few weeks ago an application was made by the plaintiffs for a new trial. When it came before Judge Bray on Tuesday (14th), Mr. White, the defendant's solicitor, said that the defendant had placed everything in his hands, and he had come to the conclusion that there could be no answer to the claim. The revue was launched originally by a man named Isenthal, who had been interned, and he proposed that Mr. de Bruyn should join the company. In order to protect himself for the dresses and money he had lent he did so. In his efforts to protect himself he wrote certain letters which made him liable for the claim. He had had no chance of doing otherwise.

Mr. Hilberry, barrister, asked Judge Bray for judgment and costs of the two trials, which was given.

["The Era" has a larger circulation than that of any other theatrical or variety journal published in the United Kingdom.]

THE PLAYGOERS' CLUB.

Mr. Augustus Yorke was the guest of the Playgoers' Club on Sunday evening last. The distinguished Mr. Abe Potash had been invited to give a paper on "The New American Invasion of the Theatre." It was Mr. Yorke's first visit to the club, but, as one of his "hecklers" pointed out when he had finished speaking, he showed himself as well acquainted with the traditions as the oldest member—after carefully announcing his subject he had immediately proceeded to talk about something else quite different.

Mr. Yorke's difficulty was, as he told us at the outset, that he did not believe, personally, that there existed, or ever could exist—at any rate, not for a very long time to come—an American invasion of the English theatre. According to him, we have too long a start to be so easily overtaken. He gave us an idea of what the average American feels when he first comes to England—of his awe and reverence for our history, our institutions—even our Parliamentary proceedings come in for a share of his approbation. As for our playwrights, from Shakespeare to Shaw, we were assured that the American's admiration and appreciation of them was a good deal more acute than our own. Only a decadent nation, declared Mr. Yorke, could be successfully invaded, and while we can point to as brilliant a set of contemporary writers as any belonging to the ages behind us, such as Arnold Bennett, Wells, Wilde, G. B. S., etc., etc., we are not showing signs of decadence.

American writers, with a past stretching behind them through a paltry hundred years or so, were, according to Mr. Yorke, far too diffident in the face of the accumulated literary wealth of centuries to dream of an incursion into England's dramatic field. In short, Mr. Yorke assured us that America wouldn't invade us if she could, and couldn't if she would. If there was any invasion at all, the boot was on the other leg—the dominating influence in the States was British. Out of twenty-seven presidents twenty-five had been of British birth, the lives and fortunes of the citizen of New York were in the hands of the New York Irish policeman; and two out of the three American plays whose recent success in London had given rise to the talk of American alleged invasion were written wholly or partly by Englishmen—"Peg o' my Heart" and "Potash and Perlmutter." If America could influence us through her plays in any way, said Mr. Yorke, it could be by the insistence on the deep vein of human sentiment that underlies the American nature and is its strongest characteristic. Only the sentiment of Mr. Hartley's play was essentially American, "Peg o' my Heart" had nothing to do with American life. "Potash and Perlmutter" (the apotheosis of the Yid) showed us the Jew in what was to us a new light—the light of his humanity and his sentiment. "Kick-In" was a faithfully-drawn picture of the New York underworld, and in that, too, the sentimental side of the American character was brought out in Chick's tender-hearted landlady.

Mr. J. T. Grein was one of those who contributed to the ensuing discussion. He explained that the often-used term—invasion—in connection with American plays in London was "journalese" for "welcome"; and, of course, he ought to know. He confessed that he had seen "Potash and Perlmutter" ten times, and "Kick-In" five.

Mrs. J. T. Grein performed the offices of chairman gracefully, and made quite a brilliant little speech of introduction on her own account at the opening of the proceedings.

THE THESPIAN ROLL OF HONOUR.

Slowly, but all too surely, the list of actors who have given their lives for their country lengthens. The latest Thespian hero is Lieut. Henry Armstrong, who enlisted in the 6th Gloucesters at the outbreak of war, and last January obtained a commission in the 7th Somersets. He was killed while reconnoitring in France on Nov. 29.

Alexander, Harry, Grenadier Guards.
Armstrong, Henry Louis Winthrop, 2nd Lieut., 7th Batt. Somberset Light Infantry.
Birch, Herbert Trenly, Corporal, Wiltshire Regt.
Brandon-Thomas, Lt. J, Grant.
Button, Robert ("Bobbie" Russell), R.G.A.
Carlton, Lawrence, 40th Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C.
Carrington, Corporal (Shaugh Desmond).
Cattley, Clive, Canadian Regt.
Chapin, Harold, Lance-Corporal, R.A.M.C.
Colman, S. G., H.M.S. Good Hope.
Dennys, Lieut. Kenneth, Munster Fusiliers.
Du Maurier, Lt.-Col. Guy, 3rd Battalion Royal Fusiliers.
Grove, Laurence, Royal Naval Reserve.
Hammond, Frederick Robert Cyprian, Second Lieut., Royal Fusiliers.
Knowles, John, Gordon Highlanders (Territorials).
Lowdell, Lancelot, 1st Grenadier Guards.
Mackinder, Lionel, Corporal, Berkshire Regt.
Mason, Second Lieut. Edward, 3rd Batt. Northamptonshire Regt.
Milward, A.
McClelland, Laurence, 1st Northamptonshire.
Owen, Meredyth (Merrige Meredyth), 9th Welsh.
Paterson, Sergt. Arthur, 4th Batt. London Rifle Brigade.
Powell, Will.
Sanger, Eddie, London Fusiliers.
Struthers-Perkins, Guy (Guy Struthers), lieutenant, Royal Marines.
Triteschler, Henry Joseph, Devonshire Regt.
Venning, Gerald Edwin, Captain, 1st Suffolk.
Watt, Basil H., 2nd Lieut., Cameron Highlanders.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

An important place on the programme of the Royal Academy's Orchestral Concert at Queen's Hall on the 14th inst. was given to a new composition by one of the Academy's students, Mr. Morfydd Owen. It is a setting for baritone and orchestra of words taken from the Ode "Pro Patria," and is called "England." Mr. Owen has succeeded in writing appropriate phrases of broad and lofty sentiment, and has evidently a sense of dramatic effect. The number was well sung by Mr. Robert Pitt. Two movements from the "Pibroch" Suite by Sir A. C. Mackenzie, who conducted, were finely played by the orchestra with Mr. Wolfe Wolfinsohn, a violinist who produces a notably pure and sympathetic tone, as soloist. A brilliant pianist, Mr. Rae Robertson, was heard in Saint-Saëns' "Africa" Fantasy, and an able violoncellist, Miss Elma Godfrey, in Dvorák's "Waldesruhe."

The "Air des adieux" from Tschaikovsky's "Jeanne d'Arc" proved rather too heavy for the quality of Miss Mary Mackie's voice, which, though full and warm, is too light in texture for so dramatic a piece. Mr. David Harry essayed the great Verdi air, "Celeste Aïda," with good results. Other names figuring on the programme were Miss Kathleen Levi as pianist, and Miss Marjorie Perkins, a singer.

The only item in which the orchestra appeared otherwise than in the capacity of accompanist was the closing number, Auber's Overture, "Marco Spada." Their quality was so excellent in this as to cause regret that they had had so little opportunity for independent display during the afternoon.

THE HAROLD CHAPIN MATINEE

A tribute to the memory of that brilliant young actor and playwright, Harold Chapin, who laid down his life for his country in the thirtieth year of his life, in the early part of October of this year, was paid at the Queen's Theatre last Tuesday afternoon. To perpetuate the remembrance of a singularly gifted man, one who had a rare gift of attracting affection and esteem, it is proposed to erect a Y.M.C.A. Hut at the front, to be known as the "Harold Chapin Hut," and to raise the necessary funds four one-act plays by the young author were performed at a memorial matinée on Tuesday. Three of these have been already seen. The fourth,

"THE PHILOSOPHER OF BUTTERBIGGENS."

David ..... Mr. Campbell Gullan
Lizzie ..... Miss Hilda Trevelyan
John Bell ..... Mr. Allan Jeayes

was produced for the first time. In it Mr. Chapin has shown the same keen insight into character, the humour and the mastery of dramatic effect by simple means that have marked his other works. It is a delicious little study of three Scotch types, the young husband and wife, and the old father. Lizzie, the wife, is a hard-working, thrifty, comely young woman, whose God is respectability. She rules her little household with a rod of iron. Only her small son, "wee Alexander," sometimes gets his own way because if opposed he "greets loud and sair," and his mother dreads the neighbours' tongues. The old father wants to tell the bairn a "wee bit story" before he goes to bed. Lizzie is adamant, refuses to see that "there's nae harm in it," carts "wee Alexander" off, and leaves his grandfather to meditate aloud, and with bitterness, on the misery of growing old and being obliged to give in to the dominant generation. Then a brain-wave overtakes the old man. Wee Alexander brings his mother to submission by the persistency of his "greetin'." Why should not David use the same weapon? When Lizzie returns she is treated to the most awful howls and yells, until she is beaten, and hurriedly fetches the baby boy, to be triumphantly cuddled in his grandfather's arms, as he begins his story.

Mr. Campbell Gullan was delightful as the old Scotchman, perfectly natural, not a note or effect overstrained, just a delicately drawn little picture of a peevish, humorous, physically infirm old man. Miss Hilda Trevelyan got that lovely touch of practical motherliness that she can convey so exquisitely, into the part of Lizzie. Mr. Allan Jeayes was good as the stolid, obedient husband, and Mr. Harold Chapin's own adorable little son was wee Alexander.

"It's the Poor that 'Elps the Poor" (produced originally at the Court Theatre by the Playactors), was distinguished by the fine acting of Mr. Gerald du Maurier as the Ted 'Erbert, the young coster lad who returns from "fourteen days" to find his tiny son dead from lack of proper nourishment and the neighbours assembled after the expensive funeral, to which they have all lavishly contributed. Ted, in his bitterness, his savage fury, his bewilderment at the kindness that was given too late, and finally his pitiful weeping with his head buried in his wife's lap, was splendidly portrayed by Mr. du Maurier. Miss Calypso Valetta (Mrs. Harold Chapin) gave a very clever performance of Mrs. 'Erbert. Miss Blanche Stanley, Miss Agnes Thomas, Miss Kathleen Russell, Miss Sydney Fairbrother, Miss Ida Cameron, and Messrs. Stanley Turnbull, Jack Renshaw, Ben Field, Ben Webster, and A. Harding Steerman, were also in the cast.

In "The Dumb and the Blind" Mr. Henry Ainley was admirably replaced by Mr. Allan Jeayes, as Joe, the bargeman. Miss Elsie Dawson once again delighted us by her excellently natural impersonation of the devoted drudge-wife, Liz, and Miss Irene Ross, though a little uncertain with her cockney accent, was a typically perky school-board flapper. Mr. Norman Page was hardly heavy enough as the taciturn Bill to be convincing.

"Innocent and Annabel," altogether a different type of play, was just as well acted as it could be. Evidently Mr. Stanley Logan's metier is the impersonation of the male butterfly, the irresponsible, charming, flirtatious Latin type, that weds a Saxon wife, to whom, in spite of his numerous digressions, he remains devoted, and who keeps him, as well as her house, in beautiful order.

Nothing could have been better than the acting of Mr. Stanley Logan as Mr. Innocent, and Miss Mary Jerrold as his fascinating, matter-of-fact little wife. The rather ungrateful part of the elderley Annabel was undertaken by Mrs. Alice Chapin (the mother of the author), who played it with a nice sense of discrimination.

Mr. Henry Ainley, who was prevented from taking part in a play through the necessity of his appearance in the Haymarket piece, recited a poem specially written for the occasion by Miss Dorothy Brandon, entitled "L'Envoi."

"THE PEDLAR OF DREAMS."

A Revue Fantasy, Written by R. B. Salisbury and Bertrand Davis. Music and Lyrics by Dick Henty. Produced at the Vaudeville Theatre Saturday, December 18.

The Quaints, the odd, whimsical, fantastical little company of entertainers, with whose attractive work we have been familiar for some time, were "submitted" by Mr. Herbert Jay in a revue fantasy, entitled "The Pedlar of Dreams," at the Vaudeville Theatre last Saturday afternoon. The entertainment is as charming as the title, although it is a little flimsy for a whole evening's recreation. It is provided by half a dozen clever people, impersonating different types of Pierrots. Thus we have the romantic Pierrot, Mr. E. Lane Mott; the plump and cheerful Pierrot, Mr. Edward Gar; the dryly humorous Pierrot, Mr. R. B. Salisbury; the sweet, singing Pierrette, Miss Agnes Croxton; the sprightly, vivacious Pierrette, Miss Dorothy James; and the dancing Pierrette, Miss Peggy May.

A slender plot, some pretty, simple scenery, and music that is really tuneful, is all that is necessary to exhibit the art, the fun, the pathos, the charm of this happy company, and it is enhanced by the addition of an alluring chorus, who flit in and out in a succession of lovely frocks, and dance and sing and make love to the Pierrots with an air of irresistible revel.

Mr. R. B. Salisbury, part-writer of the fantasy, the dryly humorous Pierrot, leaves mysterious, moonlit Pierrot-land to seek his affinity on earth, and ultimately returns unsuccessful. His adventures constitute the thread on which the other five hang their talents. To our delight the Quaints do not omit "Widdicombe Fair," which, sung by all the six, is one of the best things of the evening. Practice has made the company very perfect in this old country song, which has in it so much of the never-to-be-forgotten flavour of the West Country. All are good, but the best of all are Mr. E. Lane Mott, the singer, and Mr. R. B. Salisbury as Harry Hawke. Mr. Salisbury also proves himself a very clever mimic, especially in the "Nightmare" scene, in which the Quaints burlesque themselves, and Mr. Salisbury sings "The keys of heaven" as Miss Croxton has sung it earlier in the evening, the lady taking the part of one of the two lovers. Mr. E. Lane Mott, with his handsome face and soft, melodious voice, is a great success, especially in a song, "The pedlar of dreams," that should become widely popular. He is also exceedingly good in "a boy, a bun, and a train" episode, and in his imitation of Peggy May. Mr. Edward Gar gets his best chance in a song, "James William Maconochie," which he sings excellently. He shows to great advantage in a sterilised version of "Little Red Riding Hood," a very good bit of fun, and his endeavours to explain the plot to the audience provoke an immense amount of laughter.

As the dancer, Miss Peggy May fascinates by her wild, elfin grace. She is just an adorable sprite, slim and red-haired and elusive, only becoming tangible when she shows her pretty teeth in the stereotyped smile of the stage dancer.

Miss Agnes Croxton has a particularly pure, sweet voice, and knows how to use it. Miss Dorothy James is at her best as Red Riding Hood. She has an agreeable sense of humour that might be developed with advantage to the entertainment as a whole, which is a little lacking in mirth so far as the ladies are concerned.

An excellent tragi-comedy note is introduced by the singing of "Boots" by Rudyard Kipling, set to music by Captain Nash. The six sing it very quietly, but with splendid effect, so that one gets the full value of the words. It won well-merited applause on Saturday. Another good thing is a trio, "Three men in a boat," sung by Messrs. Dick Henty, Frank Martyn, E. Lane Mott. One or two items might be well omitted, "The birth of a suburb," for instance, which is wearisome.

Altogether a bright, pleasant, refreshing evening, an entertainment that should find high favour with young and old this Christmastime.

"MORE," AT THE AMBASSADORS.

Mlle. Delysia having left the cast of "More" for a short holiday, her place has been taken temporarily by charming Mlle. Yvonne Granville, equally pictorial and vivacious. Mlle. Granville has fine vocal powers, and manages her voice well, while her beautiful appearance lends distinction to the ensemble. She gives us a seductive piece of miming in the early Victorian episode, which is still one of the gems of the evening.

In place of Miss Iris Hoey, we now have Miss Peggy Primrose, who has a graceful personality and a pleasant attractiveness quite her own.

Some new numbers have been introduced since our last visit. "The flappers' parade," brightly sung by Miss Eileen Northe, sets forth the fatal flapper in all her glory. "Buying a drink," a hit at the new licensing regulations is amusing, but its length makes it a little tedious.

Messrs. Morris Harvey, Murri Moncrieff, Andre Randall, J. M. Campbell, and Miss Betty Balfour are all unflagging in their energies, and keep up the spirit of the original production to its highest pitch.

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Goodall, Miss Edyth
Goodfellow, Mr. J.
Gorf, Miss E.
Gormon, Mr. Gus
Grace, Sir Valentine, Bart.
Graham, Mr. Ronald
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Gudor, Mr.
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The usual story of success falls to be reported of Feldman numbers in Scottish pantomimes. Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Rich. Waldon, Moreton and Heath, and Harry M'Kelvie have all used Feldman songs largely, and, needless to say, successfully. The surprise packet of the day in Scotland is undoubtedly the enthusiastic reception of the ditty, "When the moon shines bright on Charlie Chaplin," which already has taken the northern pantomimes by storm, and is being sung, hummed and whistled from the Mull of Galloway to John o' Groats. There is no other number so greatly in favour; it is a distinct and gratifying hit, and, incidentally, proves once again Mr. Bert Feldman's capacity for "spotting" winners. Other numbers from the Arthur-street catalogue in high favour in Scotland are "A little bit of heaven," "Blue eyes," "Kentucky home," "Sprinkle me with kisses," "Good-bye, Virginia," "When the Angelus is ringing," "You great big wonderful baby," "Oh! oh! for the sight of a girl," "When it's night-time in Dixieland," "What do we care—we two?" "We're North Country lads and lasses," and "Meet me at the corner of the street."

Daisy Dormer will make a special feature of "You great big wonderful baby" in panto at Bristol.

Mr. W. O. Dyson writes:—"At Andie Caine's 'Red Riding Hood' pantomime, produced at King's Theatre, Longsight, our big successes were 'When the moon shines bright on Charlie Chaplin,' 'Save your kisses till the boys come home,' 'When the Angelus is ringing,' 'Blue eyes,' and 'What do we care—we two?'"

Mr. Leslie Moreton, of Moreton and Heath's Aberdeen pantomime, "Aladdin," at His Majesty's, says: "'Meet me at the corner of the street,' 'If you're going back to London,' 'When it's night-time in Dixieland,' and 'Sprinkle me with kisses,' were splendidly successful in their production.

Gordon James, whose name is successfully associated with "A little bit of heaven," writes from Burnley:—"'When I leave the world behind' is going enormous; quite as well as 'A little bit of heaven.' I shall sing it at Wood Green Empire third week in January."

SHOREHAM THEATRE OPENED.

Shoreham Theatre had an auspicious opening on Tuesday evening, with a good and varied programme. The residents of the ancient Sussex seaport are congratulating themselves on the enterprise which has acquired for the town a playhouse of this ambitious character, enabling them to obtain entertainment of a standard which hitherto has been unprocurable except at the expense of a railway journey to the neighbouring towns of Brighton or Worthing. The modern idea of two "houses" nightly, namely at 6.50 and 9, has been adopted, and at the first performance on Tuesday civic recognition was given to it, the Chairman of the Shoreham-by-Sea Urban District Council, Mr. Morton L. Cook, performing the opening ceremony. The spacious steel structure, with its excellent appointments, erected at the cost of several thousands of pounds, was none too large for the audience which thronged it, despite the fact that the evening was about one of the worst which has been experienced, even of late, and Mr. H. Hoult, the manager, who has a wide theatrical experience, was up to his eyes in work, but happy. There was particularly a big muster of troops.

The Chairman of the Urban Council, in "opening" the theatre, congratulated Mr. M. J. H. Brown, the lessee, on the enterprise which had resulted in the provision of such a splendid building. The central feature of the opening programme was the musical burlesque, entitled "Carry On," presented by Messrs. Ray Bros. The scenes represented were a studio, an old-English garden, a military episode, and a hotel. The production was full of colour and incident, the costuming was graceful and artistic, there was endless variety, charming dancing, picturesque grouping, droll humour, and smart singing. Jack Gregson was the leading comedy artiste, and other principals included Cyril Kempster, Effie Black, and Jenny Lamonte. Mabel Martin, Mavis Graham, and Cyril Kempster were favourite vocalists. Among other turns was a wonderful contortionist performance by Sid Maree, a Ghurkha artiste, whose feats won cordial praise; Rob Gilmore was a clever comedian, with quaint methods, and a diverting corkscrew-dance. The orchestra did good work throughout the performance.

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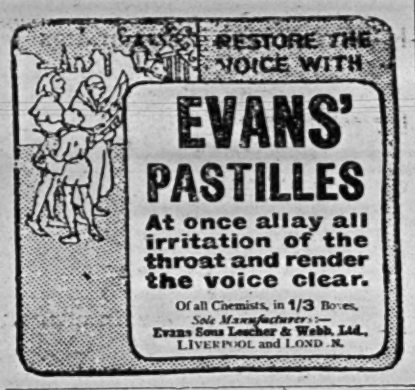

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

W. W. T.—*We could not say.*

FRED J. TEBBUTT.—*March 19, 1915. It ran up to the middle of September.*

M. J. E.—*We do not know his movements. Address a letter to him, care of this office.*

A. MARRIOTT.—*The Rehearsal Club, 29, Leicester-square, would probably meet the requirement.*

S. EVANS.—*Your questions involve too much search.*

J.—*Harry Jackson, an English Hebrew comedian, appeared at the halls a long time before Jordan and Harvey.*

J. ROBERTS.—*Try Mr. Hermann Darewski, c/o Francis, Day and Hunter, Charing Cross-road. But haven't you any popular composers in Liverpool?*

E. P. MENGELBERG (Paddington).—*You would find the addresses of a large number of the kind of firms in "The Kinematograph; or, Lantern Weekly," "The Bioscope," and "The Cinema."*

"E. V."—*Try Rayne's Theatrical Stores, 115, Waterloo-road, S.E. We could not tell you the cost of the curtains. George Arthurs, Fred Leigh, Charles Willmott, c/o Francis, Day, and Hunter, are authors who write for the halls. When you have your act ready, you might try to get an audition by writing to the head office of one of the circuits. See our advertising columns. But things are very difficult just now, and you had better postpone your projects.*

INDEPENDENT MUSIC CLUB.

Mr. Charles S. M. Raikes' presentation—at the Boudoir Theatre last week—of quatrains from Fitzgerald's translation of "Omar Khayyam" in dramatic form, is a new departure in the right direction. Mr. Raikes has created living pictures with the characters of Liza Lehmann's song-cycle, "In a Persian Garden"—"The maiden," "Thou," "The poet," and "The Philosopher"—respectively assigned by the composer to soprano, contralto, tenor and bass, and has illustrated the action by means of interpretative dances.

Garbed in appropriate costumes, the four singers and the two dancers are grouped in a setting representing the gateway of an Eastern garden. The softening effect of distance is gained by the dropping of a gauze curtain upon which suitable illustrative scenes are thrown from a lantern to cover the changes of tableaux. At Friday's performance the songs, duets and quartettes were entrusted to a highly capable group of singers: Miss Florence Mellors, Miss May Peters, Mr. John Collett, and Mr. Albert Dudley; and the dances were charmingly executed by Misses Helen May and Nora Ashbee. Miss Cicely Oppenshaw officiated at the piano.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—*Tempest, Act ii, Scene ii.*

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"Drink and fear not."
—*Henry VI., Act ii, Scene iii.*

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.

The Elliott Savonas presented their delightful musical entertainment at this popular hall last week. The troupe, eight in number, are each instrumentalists of a very high order, playing in turn various instruments, flutes, trumpets, ocarinas, and musical bells among the number. A particularly fine interpretation of the Intermezzo from "Cavalleria" was given on the Indian guerriphone, which roused the audience to enthusiasm. The magnificent stage setting was also much admired. They received a hearty and well-deserved recall.

Jack and Evelyn, the popular entertainers, in their amusing duologue, "Carrying On," gave a highly amusing show, their burlesque of Mr. Martin Harvey as Sidney Carton (who is designated Carter Patter-son), in "The Only Way," being greeted by shouts of laughter. The gentleman's impersonation of a commercial traveller, with his different intonations of "good morning," and his efforts to entice the lady customer to purchase a "platoon of sausages," was screamingly funny. Miss Violet Grey, with dainty appearance and charming voice, sang with much effect two pretty songs; Sergeant Brennan, described as the world's champion diabolist, presented a clever turn; while Mr. Arthur Lewis proved himself an expert clog dancer.

The Dublin Desmonds, in Irish dress, song, story, and dance, were much appreciated, Miss Molly Desmond giving a sweet rendering of "Dear little shamrock," while the Kerry dance of the pair was gracefully executed. The Versatile Four, clever instrumentalists and vocalists, gave several selections, the rendering of the popular Lawrence Wright ballad, "Blue eyes," by one of the quartet meeting with an emphatic demand for an encore; Phil Rallis' Trio gave an entertaining acrobatic act; while Lockhart's Elephants gave the juveniles, who were present in considerable numbers, a very hilarious time. Mr. Forbes Russell and his competent orchestra are to be congratulated on the manner in which they contribute to the success of the entertainment.

Mr. Fred Lewis, circus advance agent, is a patient in St. Laurence's Ward (No. 15), St. Vincent's Hospital, Stephen's Green, Dublin, under medical treatment for ailment to left foot, and would be glad to hear from friends.

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TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

An interesting item at the Trinity College Orchestral Concert at Queen's Hall last Friday was the performance of a student composition, an "Orchestral Suite," by Mr. Richard Ball Johnson. The first movement, "Romango," shows that Mr. Johnson possesses a vein of poetic and strongly emotional tendency tempered wisely with clear-headed sanity. The second, "Scherzo," is decidedly fresh and attractive with its snatches of dance measures and its will-o'-the-wispish suggestions of a game of hide-and-seek on the village green. The "Finale" is not quite so good. It is rather undecided and disjointed at the outset, but gathers form as it goes along, and finishes effectively. The work is commendably brief. The composer was called at its close. Full justice was paid to it by the college orchestra, under Mr. W. Sachse, who also secured good performances of Elgar's "Three Bavarian Dances," "Two Spanish Dances" by Moszkowski, and an excellent one of an excerpt from Schumann's "C Major Symphony," which he conducted as though he loved every note of it.

The executive agility of Miss Emma F. Hughes, a brilliant pianist, was well displayed in Liszt's "Hungarian Fantasia"; and Mendelssohn's "Capriccio Brillant" was neatly played by Miss Catherine O'Brien.

Miss Phyllis Novinsky, a violinist who, by all appearance, has not yet arrived at her 'teens, gave a remarkably good performance of the "Allegro non troppo," from Lalo's "Symphonie Espagnole."

A more mature wielder of the bow, Miss Anita Ricardo-Rocamora, found a suitable medium for the exercise of her undoubted powers in Sarasate's "Gipsy Fantasy." Her tone is warm and sympathetic, and her bowing free and free.

Mr. Donald Ivo Priestly played the solo part effectively in Dr. C. W. Pearce's impressive "Christmas Symphonic Poem for Organ and Orchestra."

The singers were Miss Frances H. Hall, a pure-voiced mezzo-soprano, who won warm applause for her singing of "Land of Hope and Glory"; Miss Isobel Radford, a contralto of beautiful mellow quality, especially in the lower tones, who should guard against a too-closed production; and Mr. Frederick Woodhouse, who, in Frances Allitsen's "The Lute Player," made less effect than he would have done if he had not been inclined to force his voice beyond its powers.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The Pantomime Annual, 1915-16." Price 1d. Published by "The Sunday Chronicle."

"The Dancing Times." Christmas double number. Price 6d. Published by T. M. Middleton and Co.

Post Office London Directory. Price 40s. Published by Kelly's Directories, Ltd.

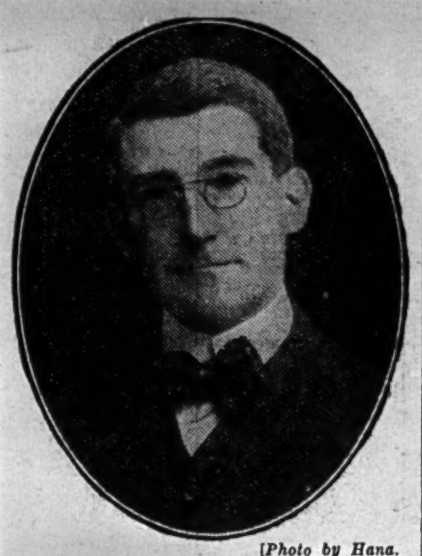
"The Mother's Magazine" for January. Price 3d. net. Published by The United Newspapers, Ltd.

BUSINESS IN THE PROVINCES.

HOW IS IT AFFECTED BY THE WAR?

[By WALTER TERRY.]

At the outbreak of war the Pressimists prophesied that the amusement business would be the first to go to the wall. But managers of all classes of entertainment in London accommodated themselves to the altered conditions with admirable resource and promptitude, and, keeping the flag flying in spite of considerable difficulties,



[Photo by Hana.
MR. WALTER TERRY.

have had little to complain about in the way of patronage. London, however, is not the only pebble on the beach. The manager who may expend some thousands of pounds on a production at a West-End house frequently has to look to the big provincial towns for those happy returns that will enable him to keep on keeping on.

And business in the provinces, judging from reports received from some of the leading managers and correspondents, is in many instances remarkably good. This is, of course, especially the case in the large manufacturing towns and where trade is normal; where there are munition works, and at places where numbers of troops are billeted. There are unfortunately other places where the population is considerably depleted and visitors are scarce, and here business has been very adversely affected.

The particular form of entertainment that is the greatest attraction varies, of course, with the class of audience who are patrons of the house. At the higher priced theatres the musical plays toured by the George Edwardes' management, Mr. Robert Courtneidge and others, the D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Carl Rosa Opera Companies, personal visits from London "stars" and really good dramas can always be relied upon to do good business. Twice-nightly melodrama appears to be first favourite at many popular-priced theatres; and revues, although mostly played at the variety houses, also do well at some of the provincial theatres. The opinion is occasionally expressed that the drawing power of the revue—or so-called revue, perhaps—is on the wane, but it is a form of entertainment that is undoubtedly very popular at most music halls.

Lighting restrictions and the early closing of licensed houses have considerably affected the takings at many of the second houses, and some managers have had to reduce their prices of admission. The competition of the cinema is occasionally responsible for this, and an instance is given of one picture house where admission may be gained by the presentation of two empty jam-jars. "Strange, but true," as our correspondent says.

While some managers find a difficulty in booking first-class attractions, others do not, and opinions are also divided as to the advisability of presenting drama, revue, or pantomime twice-nightly at the theatres.

In writing of the provinces, we must not omit to mention that managers throughout the kingdom have not been one whit behind their London brothers in organising, with the co-operation of the artistes and their staffs, matinées for the wounded and other war charities, in entertaining the Tommies, and in various other good works.

Following will be found a selection of answers kindly sent by some of the leading managers and our correspondents. The questions asked were:—

How is business affected by the war?

What form of entertainment is the greatest draw?

Do lighting restrictions affect evening attendances?

Have you found it advisable to reduce prices of admission?

Have you had any difficulty in booking first-class attractions?

Are you in favour of twice-nightly for drama, revue, or pantomime?

IF MUSIC HALL.

How many revues have you had in 1915, and what proportion have taken over the bill?

Birmingham.

Mr. W. J. Andrews, the manager of the Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, writes that he finds no complaint; rather the contrary, for Birmingham is bristling with abnormal trade, and consequently all classes of the vast population are in receipt of increased remuneration, and can the better afford amusement.

The form of entertainment that is the greatest draw naturally varies in the different class houses. Drama is easily first at the cheaper priced theatres, but the better class audiences that patronise the Prince of Wales Theatre show a marked preference for star attractions and the musical plays, such as are presented by Mr. Robert Courtneidge and by the late George Edwardes' management.

Lighting restrictions as imposed by the city authorities do not affect the house receipts at all.

Prices of admission must at all times weigh a great deal with many, but the expenses of first-class companies must of necessity command first-class prices; and while playgoers begrudge any price for inferior companies, they never complain as to the price for really good ones.

No reduction of prices will make up for lack of quality, and many playgoers have urged Mr. Andrews not to lower the standard of the theatre by presenting twice-nightly performances.

It is the attraction that always tells; and whether it be a big or a small company, it is quality that is going to draw the better class audiences.

Our Birmingham correspondent writes:—

"'Tis an ill wind, &c.,' may be suitably applied to business in war-time in Birmingham. At the commencement of hostilities cautiousness and excitement affected entertainment houses adversely, but in a very short time there was a general improvement, and for a period of six months several houses enjoyed prosperity. Since the dark nights set in business in the second houses has fallen off slightly, but no manager can make a serious complaint.

"The Theatre Royal management were the first to experiment with twice-nightly attractions for first-class theatres, and the reduction of prices and the excellence of fare provided met with public favour, and on occasions when the few available once-nightly productions have visited here there has been no grumbling at having to return to old prices. 'Twice nightly' soon followed at the Alexandra Theatre, and has proved highly successful. During pantomime season at both these houses the performances will be given once nightly, and very likely there will be more matinées than usual.

"Since last spring there have been on an average three revues a week on the music hall stages.

Liverpool.

Mr. W. W. Kelly, of Liverpool, writes:—

"Business at my three Merseyside theatres was very seriously affected during the months immediately following the outbreak of hostilities, but of late it has picked up remarkably.

"The brighter forms of entertainment are, indubitably, in the greatest demand, and it is my experience that farce, musical and other comedies, pantomime, and grand opera are the greatest draws. On the other hand, sound drama, with a 'punch' in it, also attracts big houses.

"I am not disposed to think that lighting restrictions have affected business adversely to any appreciable extent. *If* damage has been done, it has been to second-house attendances, but please notice that I emphasise my 'if.'

"The prices of admission at my three theatres are so essentially reasonable, so distinctly 'popular,' that I have never considered the advisability of reducing them still further. 'Popular prices' are, in my opinion, the only prices compatible with success. The time has gone by when people willingly pay five and six shillings for a theatre seat, and if, occasionally, they do so unwillingly, 'one swallow doesn't make a summer,' and 'the winter of our discontent is in sight.' No, I believe that if theatrical entertainment is on offer at admission charges that make but the slightest tax on the pocket, that your audience files in gladly and often. That way success lies.

"I cannot say that I have had great difficulty in booking first-class attractions: occasionally I have not been able to get this or that attraction for a special date, but that is a date-book commonplace.

"As a pioneer of 'twice nightly' in high-class theatres, I am naturally in favour of it as an entertainment method. The public want it and like it, and we, managers, are the servants of the public. However, I do not need anyone to tell me that 'twice nightly' is not always applicable or desirable. If the attraction is unable to play 'twice nightly,' I have no hesitation in playing it 'once nightly,' but in the general sense I do not abate my view in any particular, and that is that 'twice nightly' is *the* method of to-day, because the public like it, like the small price thereof, and the choice of hours.

"Finally, I would like to say, writing as a theatrical manager of over forty years' experience, that never was there so much need to keep a sensitive finger on the pulse of the public, never was there so much need to move with the times as is the case to-day."

(*To be continued.*)

Mr. F. Pennington-Gush will for five weeks, starting Boxing Day at the County Theatre, Bedford, play Jack Doogan in "Stop Thief" on tour. This is the part Mr. Percy Hutchison himself plays at the Prince of Wales's Theatre.

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THE ERA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1915.

GOOD WILL AND GOOD CHEER.

"Christmas hath beauty lovelier than the world can show," says CHRISTINA ROSSETTI; and even in these days of the great war, with its intensity of passion and its accumulated horrors, it is still the one romance that naught can bury. In the times of peace some of the more emotional among us may have followed the example of the old Morality playwrights, and conjured up on the eve of the grand festival the figure of Good-Will, sweet and gentle of face, gliding forth over the world hushing strife and enmity and wiping away gaunt sorrow's trace. She is the origin of the real Christmas spirit; her ambassadors, too, come to the grey world of suffering and privation to lift for a spell the burden of care; and if in the solemnity of our anxieties we seem to lose something of the radiance of her beams, she links us together in the blest bondage of sympathy.

But the nation's heart beats with high resolve and undiminished hope. The knowledge of a pure cause upholds us; it enables us to face events with fortitude and patience; it inspires trust in the future; it bids us "be of good cheer." And that is the message from thousands of homes which has reached the brave and glorious lads—the heroes of unwritten story, who, filled with the undaunted spirit of their race, are fighting for us on land and sea from the Kattegat to the Persian Gulf. It is no empty phrase, but is "materialised" in packages and parcels of comforts and goodies. We are rejoiced to think that, through the kindness of the heart of the million, the time-honoured customs of Yuletide will be observed as far as possible by Tommy and Jack; that there will be gladness in the trenches and joy aboard the "silent sentinels" that watch the seas.

Good cheer comes, too, from the world of the footlights, which will glow with undiminished brightness this Yuletide on the beaming features of King Pantomime—near kinsman of Santa Claus—a beneficent monarch, the protagonist of joy, who substitutes heart-cheeriness for heart-weariness, who spreads his benignant rule over these tight little islands, and holds sway in every town where there is a place of entertainment. He commands vast cohorts of faithful servants in the professions—united and intermingled more than ever during the festal period. Each will do his or her bit in fighting pessimism and spreading gaiety. Each may be trusted to keep the fun going and thus heartening up the nation; and all will win the best guerdon of their labours in the ringing laughter of the children.

But we must not forget that in providing the defenders of hearth and home with Christmas presents, the professions, theatrical and music hall, have played a large part. Every plea that has been urged by newspaper or organisers of benevolence has had whole-hearted support from the men and women of the stage. They have exerted to the full their good nature and their kindness of heart by taking an infinity of pains, and undergoing a world of trouble by playing under all kinds of conditions and during their very scant leisure. They feel it a privilege to do everything possible to come to the aid of every charity associated with the war. They cannot do enough for the boys, and by their co-operation—as we recently pointed out in these columns—they have helped to raise thousands of pounds for every conceivable fund. They have also lightened the sufferings of the wounded braves, and—all honour to them—they have done all this without focussing the attention of the great charitable public upon the needs of their own class. A sense of delicacy and an abiding patriotism forbade it. Nevertheless, every theatrical and music hall charity has suffered considerably. The resources of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund have been seriously depleted. May we not, therefore, at this season of goodwill, plead for those who always assist in enforcing the plea for others? May we not ask our richer readers, music hall artistes especially, to support Brinsworth, the home at Twickenham, and send along to our Shilling Fund a Christmas gift?

The charity of the variety profession is not among the secret things unregistered, and as we are writing we hear of the happiness of a hundred or more youngsters at a Yuletide feast at the Horns, Kennington, organised by the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild. The delighted kiddies are being fed, and clothed, and entertained; every one of them belongs to a home that has known the direness of want; and the organisers of this thoughtfully devised scheme of charity are also able to do something for the parents, all of whom are performers. Gracious is the time of Christmas; it makes us feel the dint of pity. Let us touch the chord of goodwill, and make music in our hearts through the joy of giving.

We cannot send a finer message to the trenches than that of the famous French writer, ANATOLE FRANCE:—"O, fire! sacred fire, go through the cold, dark night, bear to our soldiers in the trenches thy comfortable warmth, and sparkle joyously in their hearts."

ALBERT HALL SCHOOL STUDENTS.

The students' Christmas examinations of the Royal Albert Hall School of Drama, Speech-Training and Dancing were held last Wednesday and Thursday, Mr. F. R. Benson being the examiner on the first day and Miss Edith Craig on the second. Miss Craig had a long sitting on Thursday, when excerpts from six plays were given, but the programme throughout was a most interesting one, the work of the young people reflecting the greatest credit on the principal, Miss Elsie Fogerty, and the rehearsal master, Mr. Athol Stewart. The high standard of elocution shown by all the scholars was especially noteworthy, and in some instances the students proved themselves very promising aspirants for histrionic honours.

In a scene from "Fanny and the Servant Problem" Miss Phyllis Reid, one of the most accomplished of the students, played with vivacity and considerable feeling, and later in the afternoon was responsible for a touchingly beautiful representation of Ygrane, in "The Death of Tintagiles," the anguish of the sister when she learns of the fate of Tintagiles being acutely realised, and the impersonation throughout a really excellent one. Others who did admirably in "Fanny and the Servant Problem" were Miss Nita Ashby and Miss Thelma Dore.

In Act II. from "The Caesilis Engagement," Miss Enid Andrews amusingly enacted Mrs. Borridge, a lady always in difficulties with her "h's" and her grammar; and Miss Freda Audland, Miss Olga Katzin, Miss Nora Cattley, Miss Sue Greece and Miss Yvette Pienne all did commendably in other parts, Mr. Basil Bowen being fairly good as Geoffrey Cassilis.

In a scene from H. H. Davies' comedy, "Cousin Kate," Miss Irene Mawer acted the title-rôle with delightful aplomb and humour; Miss Biffin very neatly and naturally hit off the helplessness of Mrs. Spencer; the unthankful rôle of Amy was carefully played by Miss Margaret Lumsden; Mr. Basil Bowen gave an amusing enactment of the priggish locum tenens, Mr. Bartlett; and Miss Yvette Pienne and Miss Amy Roberts were satisfactory in other parts.

A powerful and well-written little piece, "My Neighbour's Garden," by Miss Elsie Fogerty, followed. In this Miss Margery Bryce was responsible for a capital study of character, playing with strength and feeling the part of "Irene Mord," a Cockney girl who, half famished and frozen, is befriended by a couple of "daubers," Guelda and Barbara. Recovering somewhat, she is prevailed upon to tell the girls that the cause of her despair and anger is that "he's" to be married to-morrow. "He" is the neighbour of the girls, an artist who has enlisted, and is to be married to Guelda in the morning. Some time previously "Irene Mord" had been his model—and we gather also his mistress. When she learns that Guelda is to marry him the girl takes all the blame on herself, and silently departs, but the wedding of Guelda and the artist will, at any rate, be postponed.

Miss Nora Cattley acted with a quiet impressiveness as Guelda and Miss Freda Audland as Barbara, her sympathetic chum, also gave a finished and feeling performance. "Between the Soup and the Savoury" was also given.

On Thursday scenes were taken from "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "The Dove Uncaged," "The Fantasticks," and "The Procession Passes," the afternoon finishing with a performance of Miss Fogerty's masque, "The Harrying of the Dove"—the Dove being Peace.

MLLE. KATTI-LANNER'S PUPILS.

It was to a performance by the pupils of this well-known trainer for the stage that we did hie ourselves to Streatham on Saturday afternoon last, December 18. A long and varied programme of songs, recitations, and principally dances had been prepared, the execution of which, by a host of young ladies of ages ranging from four to anything in the teens, revealed something in the way of latent genius in the performers, and showed signs of skill and ingenuity on the part of the teacher. A few interesting items stand out. The Hunting Dance, designed, we believe, originally for Mlle. Genée to fit the John Peel music, was performed quite creditably by Miss Duncan, a young lady of winsome presence, who wore an appropriate and attractive dress for the occasion. Miss Nancy Harwood's recitations—a dramatic piece called "The Dandy Fifth" particularly—were very pleasing. Miss Harwood has a good voice, which she uses with moderation and some distinction. One of the best individual performances of the afternoon was the dancing of the dark child in a Pas de Trois from "The Passing Show" music. The grace and ease of her movements were quite beautiful. We also liked the two National Dances, the Sailor's Hornpipe (given by some tiny tots) and the Tarantella. All of these were good evidences of Miss Katti-Lanner's skill in design and training.

OUR BROADSHEET.

BY ALFRED BARNARD.

SUNDAY VARIETY SHOWS.

In a letter to the "Times" of the 15th instant, the Rev. Dr. F. B. Meyer expresses his deep concern, which he believes is shared by many others, "at the increasing facility with which the authorities are giving special permission for Sunday variety shows." He points out that "a very large number of theatres are also opened on Sunday evening for musical selections and entertainments to raise funds for charitable objects," and adds, "The serious question arises whether, under the special exigencies of the war, society is not quietly removing ancient bulwarks which have been for our national safeguarding in many a stormy period of the past, and setting up precedents of a very undesirable character." Dr. Meyer expands with the dread idea that fills his soul, and concludes: "I urge the arrest of further encroachments on our Rest-Day."

Mr. H. B. Irving's View.

Mr. H. B. Irving replied to Dr. Meyer to great effect, and said:—"I think Dr. F. B. Meyer may be under some misapprehension as to the greatly increased number of Sunday performances that are being given in war time.

Previous to the war, he may not be aware that concerts and entertainments were freely given on a Sunday, and on that day the picture palaces plied, as they do now, a roaring trade. The actual increase in the numbers of such entertainments due to the war is, I believe, inconsiderable, and the fact that any such increase has been accompanied by the payment of substantial sums to various war charities, may perhaps at the moment be held to justify their existence. It is true that the conditions under which entertainments are given on Sunday are strangely anomalous. Whilst it is permissible to give a symphony of Beethoven, or a variety entertainment, or to exhibit scenes of wild buffoonery and lurid passion on the cinematograph, it is forbidden, for however worthy a cause, to perform on a Sunday a play of Shakespeare. Such a state of things is typical of the shifty humbug with which, in this country, we approach problems of this kind. Whether the spiritual and religious enthusiasm of the community is going to be better kindled by spiritualising or abolishing Sunday entertainments, or whether, from the point of view of the churches, deeper causes underlie the whole question, is another matter. But is it the time, when many such entertainments are helping substantially war funds, and giving harmless entertainment to many soldiers on a Sunday, to raise the question of their restriction? If such restriction is to come, it must be general, and deal with all forms of Sunday entertainment, charitable or not, indiscriminately."

Removing Ancient Bulwarks.

With the latter part of Mr. Irving's letter dealing with the anomalous conditions governing Sunday entertainments, most people will be in agreement, with the possible exception of Dr. Meyer, who is apparently so concerned with the rate at which we are drifting to spiritual disaster that he probably has no time to consider the many injustices under which particular sections of the community labour. The informing words in the first part of Mr. Irving's letter should serve to pierce the gloom in which the nonconformist conscience suffers its intolerable existence, although one might have been forgiven for supposing that a churchman working in S.E. London would have known that concerts and entertaiments were given on Sundays before the war. Still, on the whole, I am glad that Mr. Irving pointed out the fact, for Dr. Meyer's little knowledge in these matters is dangerous.

The most extraordinary words of Dr. Meyer's letter appear to me to be these:—"The serious question arises whether, under the special exigencies of the war, society is not quietly removing ancient bulwarks which have been for our national safeguarding in many a stormy period of the past, and setting up precedents of a very undesirable character."

Now, if this question really does arise about society as a whole, it must arise in respect of *every individual* taking part in a variety, theatrical, musical, or any other show that opens on a Sunday, and this means that every artiste who sacrifices his Rest-Day in order to assist in earning money in the cause of charity stands accused (by Dr. Meyer) of *quietly* removing ancient bulwarks and setting up precedents of an undesirable character.

Quietly! Quietly removing ancient bulwarks! Think of your terrible conduct, oh! my artistes, sneaking in at the back door of the house of entertainment on a Sunday, doing your turn secretly in the sacred cause of charity, creeping about like thieves in the night, that you may assist in *quietly* removing ancient bulwarks! What *Christian* gratitude is this to those who never refuse to work without pay to help along good causes?

A Case of Colossal Impudence.

It is colossal impudence for anybody in these days to raise a word against peaceful, harmless, and benefit-conferring Sunday occupation. Would Dr. Meyer suggest that our soldiers were *quietly* removing ancient bulwarks when their big guns boomed in the many Sunday battles that have been fought during the past eighteen months? Perhaps he would say it is necessary that fighting should take place on Sundays in order that the unscrupulous enemy should not gain advantage. But if fighting is necessary, so is the money needed for the wounded, the war charities—and what better day could there be than Sunday for attending to this? The real objection to Sunday variety shows—namely, that the artiste has to work seven days instead of six—does not occur to Dr. Meyer. If it did, his gloom might be dispelled by bright feelings of appreciation for the artistes who sacrifice so much.

After the war everything will be different, in spite of Dr. Meyer's watchfulness. He should make up his mind to that. Old conventions, habits and customs will—happily—be just as thoroughly destroyed as the idea that Britain needed only a small army. And it may be good if among the conventional ideas dispelled is that concerning Sunday behaviour. Perhaps English church people and Dr. Meyer may learn something from the Roman Catholics, who for ages have used the Sabbath in at least a common-sense manner. Be that as it may, I take comfort from the reflection that actors and actresses who are doing such good work for the war charities will not be suppressed by Dr. Meyer.

What Our Visitors Think.

Apart from other considerations and the Nonconformist conscience there are those in the world who want Sunday concerts and entertainments, as witness the following letter from a convalescent Canadian officer, published in the "Times":—

"With great respect to the Rev. F. B. Meyer, who, in a letter to the 'Times' to-day, writes objecting to any form of Sunday amusements in London, might I inform you that there are a large number of strangers here from far parts of the Empire who know nobody, and who have no opportunity for amusement other than that afforded by Sunday entertainments of some sort? I have heard it suggested again and again by those who, like myself, are strangers in this vast city, that some effort should be made to make Sunday a less trying day than it is for those of us from overseas."

VIEWS ON REVUE.

A SYMPOSIUM OF STARS.
By EDGAR WHITE.

The phenomenon of the footlights to-day is the revue, which shares with Charlie Chaplin and the war the chief attention of the British public. It has captured the country through its music halls,

[*Photo by Hana.*
MR. EDGAR WHITE.

the theatres of the metropolis are capitulating one by one, and people are wondering how long it will be before the picture palaces are seriously threatened. The revue, strange to say, is no product of the war. Long before the dark clouds had begun to gather over Europe the populace had surrendered to the fascinations of the fresh form of entertainment; but its peculiar characteristic fitted in remarkably with the situation created by the crisis, and the reign of revue, begun in peace, seems likely to last through the greatest upheaval that civilisation has known.

Exactly what is the secret of the success of revue it is impossible to say. One writer attributes it to psychological reasons, and, really, there does seem something uncanny about the prophecy contained in the title "Everybody's Doing It," which started the vogue of revue at the Empire in the early part of 1912, for it was carried out to the letter, and ere long in town and city, in village and hamlet, posters adorned the walls setting forth the attractions of "Carry On!" "Hullo, Everything!" "Top Hole," or any such colloquialism designed to catch the eye. There are several hundreds of titles already in existence, and a recent prize competition revealed another 20,000 possibilities.

One reason for the exalted position which the revue occupies in public favour is its adaptability. The chief function of the revue proper is to satirise current events, but in the modern article that element is usually cheerfully ignored and the performance takes the form of a series of variety acts more or less judiciously blended, while at least one revue of to-day in years gone by toured the theatres as a musical melodrama!

Three points arise out of the rage for revue—What is the reason of its extraordinary success? Has it come to stay? And how does it affect the profession in general? The questions are vital ones, so I resolved to consult the stars.

I don't mean that I went out and bought a telescope in order to scour the skies. No; I simply projected myself to those starry regions behind the scenes, where mirth is manufactured and witticisms are taught to fly. The Empire looked a propitious place to begin with, and there I descended upon

MR. GEORGE GRAVES.

Now anyone who has been in Mr. George Graves's dressing-room will know that it is like no other dressing-room in existence. There is an atmosphere of fun and frolic about the place that befits the tenant. His fancy in pets is extensive and peculiar; he takes snuff from a box that was used by Dr. Palmer, the notorious poisoner, and he delights in asking friends to look on the whisky when it is white. When his room is suddenly invaded by a bevy of beauty straight from the stage, who come to enthuse over a diminutive Pekingese pup that occupies a place of honour on the sofa, he quite maintains his composure. I told Mr. Graves that I had called to extract his views about revue.

"Views," he said. "You don't want views; you want a drink."

My protest that thoughts of liquid refreshment had not entered my head failed to carry conviction, so I took a Scotch and soda, vaguely conscious that I was drinking in prohibited hours.

"Revue," said Mr. Graves, "is a matrix upon which provincial shows are moulded. A man takes a walk round the London halls with a note-book and pencil, and by the next Monday he has a revue ready for the road. Compare the number of originators with the vast army of imitators and you will find that a huge percentage of the music hall profession are absolute 'pinchers.' Each man tries to get in first before the other footpads get out of gaol. It makes honest men perverted, for when a performer knows that people will pinch his act he is almost inclined to get his own back. The business, of course, depends for its effect upon the individuality of the performer and becomes a bit anæmic when dealt out by somebody else.

"Then look at the touring versions of a piece or scene. I build up my part in London scene by scene, and when the revue is sent on the road all my stuff is used. I said to a certain manager, 'If you sell this production for tour I shall want author's fees.' The manager replied, 'Oh! will you? Then the man who plays your part shall go on the stage and say "I am going to give an imitation of George Graves."' And the law can't touch him. The song-writer is protected; why should not the artiste be protected as well? Didn't they hawk copyright music in the streets at a penny a piece, and wasn't the law successfully invoked for its protection? Of course it was.

"Have you heard my latest war story. Well, the British had got the Germans on the run, and one Tommy who was getting tired of the pursuit asked his commanding officer how far the enemy was in front. 'About 200 yards' said the officer. 'But if they are able to gain a position about a thousand yards away they will be safe.' 'Oh, that's all right,' replied the Tommy, 'no German can give me 200 yards in a thousand when it comes to sprinting.' We're a happy family here. No jealousy. No asking 'Whose getting those laughs?' That's the new spirit. I'll be back in a minute." And Mr. Graves, who had transformed himself by easy stages from a pierrot to an elderly "nut," was off to lead the revels in "Watch Your Step!"

It was but a few steps to the dressing-room graced by the presence of

MISS ETHEL LEVEY.

I found the popular artiste deeply engrossed in the telephone register, recording numbers on a tablet in connection with a war charity which she was helping. Artistes have excelled themselves during this time of stress in their efforts for charity, appearing here, there, and everywhere, at a great cost of time and trouble. If a census was taken of the number of performances attended by stars since war broke out I believe Miss Levey would be found to hold the record.

"I have taken part in so many charity performances," she said, "that I do not know whether I am standing on my head or my feet. What do I think is the reason for the success of revue? Well, it is bright and gay, and there is no plot to follow. No, I won't admit that I'm responsible for it. I don't like putting medals on myself. A person can come in any time after dinner and has no need to ask his next-door neighbour what the play is about. Has it come to stay? Yes, I'm afraid it has. It is all hard work and not much fun. Revue work is the hardest in the whole theatrical line, whether opera, drama, or Shakespeare. You have to be ingénue, leading woman, comedienne, singer, and dancer all in one. There is nothing so difficult as revue. You have to make your own part. You are handed a few lines on a large sheet of paper, and you have to hunt after scenes and songs for the piece in question. Then, when one show is produced, you have to look out for fresh material for the next. People who do not think it is hard work can have had no experience. It is similar in some respects to stock work, which is the finest experience in the world, because you are called upon to play a boy one week, a girl the next, an old woman the next, and so on. What little bit of success I have had in the profession I put down to stock work and to watching other artistes from the front. How does revue affect the profession generally? Well, I think it is rather healthy for the small turn, for it keeps the big acts in London, and the revue itself employs an increasing number of minor people."

Before she attained fame in London Miss Levey appeared in musical comedy—notably in the title-rôle in "My Lady Molly"—in America. She has played frequently on the Continent, and can act in five languages.

The darkness of the night appeared to be blacker than ever when I left the Empire and groped my way to the Palace. Here I sought and found

MR. ARTHUR PLAYFAIR.

He was in an unusual state of excitement. "You see," he said, "I have been emulating Bernard Shaw. You know that in one scene of 'Bric-a-Brac' I sing a number of extempore verses on celebrities. Well, I was extemporising on a popular comedian a moment ago, and should have sung

'His gags are so hot
They bust the *bally* pot.'

But instead of 'bally,' I unintentionally said the other word. Fancy using that word to the cultured audience at the Palace. But they only laughed.

"Yes, I ought to know something about revue; I've played in more than anyone else—four at the Empire, 'Come Over Here!' 'Oh! Indeed!' 'Rogues and Vagabonds,' &c. They are very good for war time—but afterwards, well, I hope for the best. Good tunes, witty sayings, no plot to speak of—that is the reason of their success. Look at the wonderful business done at the Hippodrome and the Empire. Here at the Palace to-night, moreover, there is not a single seat to be had. It is marvellous for Monday. Do I consider that revue affects the smaller acts adversely? Most certainly I do. With only about three turns in the bill I wonder how a man can get any dates at all. But in some of the provincial towns I understand they won't have any more revue; they look upon them as ridiculous rot. Still, I think revue has come to stay. In fact, I think it is the only fare for the present time. If you get a good musical comedy like 'To-night's the Night,' or 'The Girl in the Taxi,' you are all right; but for the heavier play there seems to be no demand."

Mr. Playfair's eloquence was cut short by the cry of the call-boy, and the last I saw of him he was marching along the corridor murmuring

"His gags are so hot——"

Time pressed, but I succeeded in capturing

MISS TEDDIE GERARD.

I waylaid her at the wings, and demanded her views about revue at the point of the pencil. "I have very few," she said timidly. "Revue is merry and bright, and all that sort of thing, but, oh! such hard work. You have to work twice as hard in revue as you do in any other form of entertainment. People like to see different bits of business welded together. That, in my opinion, is the chief reason of the popularity of revue. Has it come to stay? No—Yes—that is, I think so." Miss Gerard, who began her career in America, was one of the three little girls in "Havana." She has also appeared on the Continent, and it is interesting to recall that three or four years ago she and Miss Ethel Levey and Madame Delysia, two shining lights of the present London season, appeared together in revue at the Olympia, Paris. Such a combination of talent and beauty in one programme is rare.

Pursuing my purpose relentlessly, I claimed the attention of

MR. NELSON KEYS.

He welcomed me in his best Du Maurier style. Then he commenced to speak. "There is so much change in revue," he began, "that nobody is bored, though, of course, the opportunities of revue are limited nowadays. You cannot make fun of politicians; you cannot have a comic soldier; you cannot, for instance, use such wheezes as 'Celluloid George.' The Minister of Munitions is now popular with all, and where formerly he went down now he goes up."

I agreed. "I think," continued Mr. Keys, "you will find people going earlier to revue. In the case of musical comedy many don't turn up till the second act, because they know there is nothing doing. In revue, the interest starts the moment the curtain is up. Then again it differs from the music hall, where stars appear and do their turn and then are seen no more till the next night. The revue brings them on time after time, and a favourite missed in the first scene is sure to turn up in the next, and even the last. How do I like revue? Well, I have always wanted to be in revue, and yet not wanted—if you can understand. I am very keen on comedy. I was with George Edwardes's companies playing Teddy Payne parts, and two years in Jimmy Welch's part in 'When Knights Were Bold.' But, unfortunately, if you do a few imitations you get dubbed a mimic, a name which I loathe. I once did a few imitations at the Green Room Club, the members of which, as you know, are mostly actors, and I was marked down as an imitator. It is, however, only a side line with me, and it comes in handy in revue. I make a point of never using another man's stuff, depending more on the voice and mannerisms of the persons imitated. I call them 'characteristic impressions,' adding a touch of kindly burlesque. I can recall one amusing incident in connection with 'The Passing Show.' I went down to Bushey to play golf, and was sitting at luncheon when I heard two ladies discussing 'The Passing Show,' and one said to the other: 'I think Elsie Janis's imitation of 'Mrs. Pat' was simply wonderful.' It was I all the time." And Mr. Keys, having accomplished one of the numerous changes he makes every night, made a bee line for the stage.

(*To be continued.*)

VARIETY GOSSIP

Walter Bellian, manager of the Empire Music Hall, Birmingham, was on Monday fined £5 for permitting improper songs to be sung by Harry Champion. The comedian said he had sung the songs in London and elsewhere without complaint. He admitted he sometimes changed the librette to raise a laugh.

Mr. Robert Hale, and, it is hoped, Miss Gaby Deslys, will both appear in the new American production at the Empire by Mr. Alfred Butt in January, no definite date being announced so far. The title is not yet fixed.

Mr. Oswald Stoll is busy securing attractions for the new Alhambra programme to be submitted on or about Jan. 10 next. One of his first bookings has been that of Mr. John F. McArdle, the comedian who made such a hit in "Kill That Fly!" three years ago. Mr. McArdle arrived in London on Sunday. When I saw him late yesterday the droll comedian was lamenting the stealing—en voyage—of all his footgear.

Mr. Oswald Stoll's plans will also include an arrangement with Sir Frederic Cowen, the composer of some three hundred musical works, to write the music for a new dance for Adeline Genée, whose dances will form part of a revue to be produced next month. I should like to hear some ballet music from the pen of that gifted lady, Lisa Lehmann, the composer of "In a Persian Garden," and of the music to the fine old morality play, "Everyman."

Houdini, who was at the Orpheum Theatre, Los Angeles, on Nov. 29, made a polite request to Jess Willard, the champion prize fighter, who was seated in the balcony, to act on a committee on the stage. Willard rudely replied, and let in the champion handcuff manipulator, who, addressing the audience, said: "I made a mistake. I asked gentlemen to step upon the stage, and gentlemen only." Willard shortly afterwards left the house.

The new and beautiful Cardiff Empire is to reopen on Boxing Day with a programme headed by Miss Ada Reeve. Other attractions of the bill are Rinaldo, the Harlequinaders, Ted Hopkins, the Three Merrils, Joe and Willy, and Dandy George.

The main elevation of the house is in Queen-street, and a very handsome façade has been constructed of Portland stone. There are twelve dressing-rooms, a very large and finely equipped stage, and a luxurious apartment with Ionic columns which is simply called a waiting-room.

"Excuse Me!" the excursion train play, which was seen at the Garrick a few months ago, is to be sent on tour in revue form by Mr. Harry Day, that very extensive revue tourist. It starts at the Empire, Bristol, on Boxing Day, and soon returns to town. Mr. Edward Lauri is the producer.

Mr. Harry Lauder, who is once more in New York, was entertained at luncheon by the members of the Rotary Club, and, according to the newspaper accounts, had six pipers and a drummer to march round for him when he rose to sing. The report of the luncheon says that Mr. Lauder "wore a plain tweed coat and kilts, and smoked the biggest pipe ever seen in the McAlpin Hotel."

Mr. Albany Ward is shortly opening his third place of amusement in Salisbury. He has recently purchased the Primitive Methodist chapel in the main street from the railway stations to the town, and is transforming it into an up-to-date kinema theatre. Mr. Ward is becoming very popular in the town, where he has taken up his residence, and he is well known throughout the West of England for his great assistance to all charitable objects.

Mr. Wilkie Bard has lately found the strain of so many performances a week in that rollicking revue, "The Whirl of the Town"—upset his voice a good deal. During the last few days, however, he has undergone treatment under that skilful throat expert, Dr. William Lloyd, and now Wilkie is well!

Mr. Charles Gulliver, the managing director of the Palladium, and the "Star" are co-operating to entertain two thousand Army guests on Christmas Eve to a matinée performance—the very first under the public eye—of the pantomime "Cinderella." The guests will consist of officers and their wives, wounded soldiers, soldiers on furlough from the front, and a great host of the wives and children of men who will spend Christmas in the trenches.

"Cinderella," to be produced at the Palladium on the afternoon of Boxing Day, includes in its cast newcomers and established favourites. Chief among the latter is Mr. Harry Weldon, whose rollicking and irreproachable humour makes him an ideal comedian for Buttons. Miss Bessie Butt is sure of a warm welcome as Dandini, while Cinderella will be played by Miss Daisy Burrell, a leading soubrette.

Miss Nora Delany, admittedly one of the best principal pantomime boys, will be making her first appearance before a London audience in the part of Prince Charming. Mr. Bert Errol will endow one of the Ugly Sisters with a fine soprano voice, and Mr. Ivan Berlyn will impersonate the Baron's other ill-favoured daughter. Miss Mollie Hughes, Mr. Victor Crawford, and Mr. John Harcourt are also in the company, which includes the Bob Reed Troupe of pantomimists, whose star trap act was one of the hits of "Whittington," and the Smarte Bros., who will introduce a diverting novelty in their impersonation of a fiery, untamed steed.

On Friday afternoon, Dec. 24, the management of the Glasgow Alhambra will entertain about 2,000 wounded soldiers and nurses. The Lord Provost has promised to be present, and the "Passing Show" revue company have given services gratis. Each soldier will be given a parcel containing pipe, tobacco, cigarettes, and chocolates. This matinée will form a fitting conclusion to Mr. Edward Foster's many successful efforts on behalf of war and other charities.

By the kindness of Mr. Thomas A. A. Banks (a governor of the institution), an evening concert was given to the old folks at the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum, under the direction of Mr. W. R. Dunkley. Items, which were greatly enjoyed by the old folks, were given by Miss Randall, Mr. Drury Albert, Mr. Percy Edgar, Mr. Francis Court, Mr. Ed. E. Ford, Mr. R. Bedford, Miss Partridge, Mr. E. Smith, Mr. W. R. Dunkley, Miss Layton, Mr. Beale, Mr. Jack Welch, and Miss Hennessey, Mr. W. Broughton Wilson acting as accompanist. On the motion of Mr. C. L. Wright (chairman of the asylum), seconded by Mr. T. W. Layton (chairman-elect), a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Banks for providing such an excellent entertainment, which had been so thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

Those who wish to wish Wish Wynne "A Merry Christmas!"—and of course there will be troops of such—must hurry up, as that brilliant actress sails for South Africa on that very Day!

Mr. Lionel G. Holding, of the Empire and Hippodrome, Chelmsford, has been given the post of managing-directorship of the house.

Many comedians have envied Mr. Eddie Walker the success he has had during the autumn with that much-talked-of comedy number, "Brown Bread." It is therefore interesting to learn that the All-British Music Co., 89, New Oxford-street, are now able to offer panto and revue rights of same. We should advise immediate application.

The comedy chorus song, "Brown Bread," issued by the same firm, is to be specially featured by Mr. Eddie Walker in the coming Kennington Theatre pantomime, "Cinderella."

Much sympathy will be felt for Mrs. Edwards and family in the sad loss of her husband, Mr. Ned Edwards, the popular Welsh comedian, who died at his home at Florence-street, Neath, after an illness lasting several months. He successfully trained his two little girls, who are known as the Queenies. They were appearing at Milford Haven when the sad news reached them.

Glasgow has been doing its part well in helping the many charities arising out of the war. The Pavilion, under the energetic management of Mr. Wm. W. Matthew, has held several special Saturday matinées, and already a sum of over £1,000 has been handed to various funds. The Alhambra has also distinguished itself, and Mr. Edward Foster has worked like a Trojan for every one of the relief funds selected, and with excellent results. The most recent charity matinée was at Hengler's on Tuesday, where Mr. Harry Milne was enabled to announce a handsome sum realised for the benefit of British prisoners in Germany.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Glasgow Alhambra was held in the theatre on Friday, Mr. Ernest Polden presiding. The chairman moved the adoption of the report, and Mr. Alfred Butt, the managing director, in seconding the motion, directed attention to the large amount which had been spent during the year in redecorating the theatre, and afterwards referred to the impending departure of Mr. Edward Foster, their manager, who had accepted an invitation to fill the position of manager at the London Alhambra.

Mr. John Morland, the genial manager of the Tottenham Palace, has obtained an excellent Christmas attraction in Messrs. Edelsten and Burns' "Forty Thieves." The cast is a powerful one, and includes many well-known artistes.

Mr. Shaun Glenville will be one of the principal funny men in "Old King Cole," which is to be produced at the Grand, Leeds, on Christmas Eve. The pantomime is a new book, expressly written by Mr. R. C. Oldham. Miss Dorothy Ward will be handsomest and most debonair of principal boys.

"All Spoof," the new version of the revue formerly called "Saucy," has been prepared for Arthur Roberts by that pastmaster in revue-building, Mr. Charles Baldwin. Yesterday afternoon the new script was forwarded to the Play Licenser. The Eccentric Arthur was, we found, calmly and confidently awaiting the decision of the Lord Chamberlain's Advisory Board.

"All Spoof!" is to be presented by Arthur Roberts and company at the Middlesex. The new leading lady is Miss Ida Crispi.

Miss Winifred Porter, who is appearing in "Alice in Wonderland" at Manchester at single turn. She will then adopt the name of Christmas, will afterwards try her fortune as a Win Wynkle.

Miss Moya Mannering is properly proud of the fact that she has a brother in the 1st Bn., of the 19th London Regt., now at the Front. His name is Private Finn Doyle, and he joined last August. Mr. Doyle was well known as a comedian, and played many parts on tour in drama and pantomime. Peg o' My Heart has wonderful letters from him.

The Liverpool Olympia, which will hold over 4,000 people, was on Wednesday packed in every part when the annual matinée was given in aid of the League of Welldoers, an organisation which has for many years done good work among the poorest of the poor in the great shipping centre. The Lord Mayor presided, and, in addition to many leading citizens being present, there were wounded soldiers from local hospitals, and nurses and boys and girls from maritime charities, who had been invited by generous friends.

As usual, members of the theatrical profession from the local halls readily offered their services, and, during an interval, the Lord Mayor proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Frank Allen, managing director of Moss' Empires, for his great liberality and public spirit in allowing the use of the building; to Mr. E. W. James, the indefatigable manager, for having made such complete arrangements, and to the various artistes who had come forward in a good cause. During the afternoon the wounded soldiers were provided with cigarettes, chocolates, and tea, a large staff of ladies looking after their comfort.

The 62nd consecutive "Hippodrome concert" to the wounded warriors in the Dyke-road Hospital, Brighton, on Thursday last, when Messrs. Graham Elliott and Frank Sharpe, the organisers, with the hearty co-operation of Mr. W. H. Boardman, the Hippodrome manager, were enabled to place before these battle-scarred fighters a programme of turns that would have done great credit to any West-End hall.

Mr. Boardman brought up Florence Wray, Rameses, the McNaughtons, Jen Latona, Arthur Astill, and John Paley from the Hippodrome, at which hall, by the kind permission of the management, a collection was made last week by the Soldiers' Christian Association for a Christmas treat to the soldiers at the Dyke-road Hospital. A sum of £7 14s. 5d. was collected, and it is worthy of note that Miss Florence Wray's box contained £2 0s. 3d. of the amount. Mr. Boardman brought up a supply of cigarettes, purchased out of the proceeds of Mr. Ed. E. Ford's poems, which were on sale at the Hippodrome recently.

This should be a happy Christmas for Mr. Alex. Galley, the manager of the Empire, Wolverhampton, for, entirely on his own initiative, he has raised a fund to provide the widows and orphans, to the number of three hundred, of the fallen heroes of that town, not only with a joint of beef and a Christmas pudding, but tomorrow (Thursday) they attend as his guests at the Empire first house, when each child will receive a bag containing sweets, oranges, &c., and a suitable toy. Another proof, if one were wanting, that the members of the variety profession are always in the front rank in the cause of charity.

Late last night the London Hippodrome management seemed to be contemplating a different title to "Joy-Land" for the new revue. There was every indication, however, that the new piece will really be ready for production to-morrow night (Thursday).

Miss Lillie Langtry is rehearsing the part of Aladdin for the L.T.V. Circuit, after fourteen weeks on the London halls. She will open on Boxing Day.

Miss Marie Lloyd has added two capital new songs to her repertoire, in "I do love you now you've got the khaki on" and "If you want to go in a revue," both by Sam Mayo, who has quite a vogue as a song writer. She has been singing them with great success at the Chiswick Empire, and will take them along with her to the Oxford and Metropolitan on Boxing Day.

The Oxford announces Xmas matinées on Monday, Dec. 27, Tuesday, Dec. 28, and Saturday, Jan. 1, at 2.15. A capital bill of fare has been provided, which includes Marie Lloyd, Bert Errol, The Melodians, Jock McKay, Harry Webber, The Daunton Shaw Australian Cyclists and the funny revue, "Odds On."

F. V. St. Clair beat all his London song-selling records last two weeks at Mr. Chas. Gulliver's halls, where he sold over £100 worth of his immensely successful number, "I will repay" (the Nurse Cavell song), at 2d. a copy. Over £50 worth in a week!

Mr. R. G. Knowles's reappearance at the London Pavilion on Boxing Day for four weeks will add to the gaiety of London. The popular comedian will in future be seen more frequently in the West-end, as he is booking dates for the next three years.

Last week P. T. Selbit's revue was playing at the Empire, Hackney, and in the cast, playing the old farmer, is Mr. George Lupino (father of Stanley, Barry and Mark Lupino). Upon the Friday evening he was surprised to receive a small package—handed in at the stage door. Upon opening it he found a very handsome silver-mounted crocodile letter-case with his initials thereon, and inside a card: "To George Lupino, a small tribute from one who has seen him often, and who has been his earnest admirer from childhood." Mr. George Lupino has no idea of the identity of the donor, but he is deeply touched and gratified.

The Five Sisters, in their novel musical act, are touring the provinces with great success. They carry a beautiful setting, and are frequently being complimented by managements for bringing something different. This week they are playing the Hippodrome, Exeter. The sisters—all "Sister Susies" in their spare time—are very proud of a collection of letters and cards they have received from "lonely" and other soldiers at the front thanking them for gifts.

[Photo by Hana.
THE PILGRIM
wishes his friends a Happy Christmas.

Miss Katie Marsh is to play the principal boy in "The Forty Thieves" at the Brixton Theatre, and the choice of such a dainty and vivacious little lady is an excellent one. Among her songs will be "Keep the home fires burning" and "We all did the goose step home." Miss Marsh's brother, Rifleman Frank Harvey, of the 1st Surreys, was one of the original Harvey Boys.

Jack Rawson (of the Rawsons, Maggie and Jack) has been working for five months at the Small Arms Factory, Enfield, putting in long hours in order to do his bit. He has now enrolled himself under Lord Derby's scheme. After the war is over he will produce an entirely new act.

Jimmy Molloy tells a good story against himself. When on holiday at Margate during his managership of the Ealing Empire, he met another music hall manager who used to be in charge of the Olympia, Shoreditch, and both visited the Hall by the Sea. The first to appear on the stage was a double song and dance turn of the mediocre class at once recognised by Jimmy as playing his house some time previously.

Later the two were in an hostelry when the double turn entered. Jimmy, approaching the couple, remarked: "We noticed your turn, and we liked it very much." "Thanks," was the reply, "have a drink?" "That's kind of you," said James, "but, I say, I should like to get on the stage myself. I suppose you couldn't advise me."

"You can't get on the stage; it takes years, and is very difficult." "Well, how did you get on," asked Jimmy. "Oh, you have to give a trial week." "Ever played Shoreditch?" "Yet, but not much luck there." "Ever played the Ealing Hippo?" "Yes, we have, but the manager there is a dog. When we went to his office and knocked at the door he bawled out: 'Yes, what do you want?' 'Thought we'd like to know how we went.' 'Not too grand. Don't think you will ever be any good for the profession. What were you before you joined the profession?' Said one: 'I was in an estate agent's office.' And what do you think the old pig said: 'Take my advice, lad, and get back to work again quickly.'" Exit duo after Jimmy and his friend had introduced themselves.

As Scotch and Irish revues have both met with considerable success, I am not surprised to hear that Wales is at last to have a revue of its own. The title at present chosen is "What a Rarebit!" The music has been selected and composed by Reginald J. Conoley, and Max Jerome is responsible for the book.

THE PILGRIM.

CHAIRMEN I HAVE MET.

By W. BAILEY and THE PILGRIM.

[*Some few years ago many of us sang of the home-coming of "Bill Bailey." We pleaded to this obdurate person in pathetic accents "Won't you come home, Bill Bailey?" There were many Bill Baileys, no doubt, who replied in the affirmative. The most genuine of them was "our Bill," who returned to his old home, the Metropolitan. He went there in the 'seventies, stayed for eighteen years, was absent for fifteen, and got back there about five years since. I need say little more of Mr. William Bailey. He started life in the hardware business, and has had a good deal of hard wear since as a pro., a manager, a proprietor, and a chairman. In 1868 he topped the bill at the Star Theatre, Liverpool, at a single-figured salary. Think of it, ye toppers who earn five thousand a year.*—ED., "The Era."]

MR. WILLIAM BAILEY.

It has for many years been a disputed point whether it was the Cider Cellars in Maiden Lane or the Coal Hole in the Strand, or Evans's Supper Rooms in Covent Garden, which was the scene of the Cave of Harmony, described by Thackeray in "The Newcomes." How interesting it is to open the first chapter and read again the account of the Colonel's visit, in company with young Clive, to the Cave of Harmony. How vivid the scene!

"We enjoyed such intimacy with Mr. Hoskins that he never failed to greet us with a kind nod; and John, the waiter, made room for us near the president of the convivial meeting." Many of us can even now recall a like occurrence "in the days of our youth," and how, in an almost reverential spirit, we were wont to regard the commanding figure who sat at the top of the little table in front of the footlights, and who, after a preliminary tap with a miniature sledge-hammer, announced the various turns in stentorian voice. Sometimes oratorical, too.

The Man of Potations.

The Chairman, in Thackeray's day, and until he disappeared, was the remanet—if we may use the term—of the free-and-easies, at which his presence was most essential. He had several duties, of which the preservation of due decorum—the phrase is quite Victorian, and may therefore stand—and the announcement of the talent were the chief. Occasionally, too, he had to "fill in" either with a sentimental ballad, or a motto song. And also, more than occasionally, he had to "fill up" with whiskey and soda, or other diluted firewater. He encouraged the traffic in drink by putting down a good deal of it, but stood his potations well.

The Variety Boom.

His doom was sealed in the early nineties, when the London County Council, then newly established, took over from the Middlesex magistrates the business of licensing. Controversy raged round the alleged indecency of music hall songs, and one chairman of a suburban music hall infuriated the Theatres and Music Halls Committee by pretending ignorance of the meaning of the word "blue" as a qualifying adjective for a verse containing double entente or offensive suggestiveness. The variety boom soon followed, and the spirit of modernity which converted the public-house annexe—as the lofty and superior theatrical magnate often called the older music hall—into the variety theatre could not brook the retention of the Chairman. His occupation had gone, and his appearance in the newer palaces of smoke and song was as completely out of place as the ancient night watchman with his horn lantern would be in present-day Piccadilly. With his departure disappeared much of the conviviality that did so much for the bars and so little for art.

Of Royal Descent.

The chairmen were recruited from no particular class. Howard Harris, who wielded the hammer at a Portsmouth music hall, was understood to be an illegitimate son of George the Fourth. He often made a boast of the fact when the "bowl" had been flowing. The veins of his big hands stood out, and he would say: "My boys, look here, the blue blood of the House of Brunswick flows in those veins." He had a ship bell on his table, and used to strike it as a signal for order.

That White Waistcoat.

In contrast to Harris, I may mention a horny-handed son of toil, who might have posed for Longfellow's "Village Blacksmith." He was at a hall at West Bromwich, and was really a forge hand—a burly ironworker, with a very aggressive white waistcoat—immaculate on Monday, but on Saturday! He did not swing his heavy sledge, but he used a very large hammer, almost the size of a mallet. With this he found it quite easy to "make a hit." Tut! tut!

Another rough diamond was Billy Thompson, of the Oxford, Cloth Market, Newcastle-on-Tyne. He was either a bargeman or a docker—his "clasp" was quite a shocker—and he had the gift of a good voice. He could sing in the Tyneside dialect in a way that made him an immense favourite with gods and pit, who would always ask him for the then popular ballad, "My bonnie black bargeman o' the Tyne!" It was always a good "fill in"—far better than a selection by the band.

At the time that turn working came into vogue that hardy and genial Scot, Jock Muir, wielded the hammer at the Whitebait, Glasgow. He was a dialect singer, and the pink of courtesy. Once he made the following complimentary announcement: "That braw clever laddie, Willie Bailey, has no' arrived yet fra' the Britannia. Pending his appearance I'll just gie ye 'Willie brewed a peck o' maut.'" What a hit he always made!

The Man of Fines.

John Middleton, of Nottingham, was very fond of exacting fines. It was always half-a-crown for not being ready when announced. At one of my engagements he said: "Very sorry, young Bailey—only one!" Ward and Spendley followed me, and as they were having a friendly game of cards at a neighbouring pub, I kept the stage for half an hour with a long patter song, "The country fair," and some Dickensian sketches, running in also a dialect sketch of a quack doctor selling pills in the market-place, until I saw Ward ready in the wings. We had quite a beano that night—old Middleton had been done out of half a crown!

The Buffo Vocalist.

As a singing Chairman, F. Jonghmanns may be accorded a prominent position. He was at Evans's—now the King's Hall, Covent Garden, and National Sporting Club. I have said "Chairman," though Jonghmanns never occupied a chair, but came on to the platform to announce turns. He was an excellent vocalist, and often chatted to me about Paddy Green, the popular proprietor of Evans's, who endeared himself to the frequenters by the urbane manner in which he used to tender his snuff-box, and call everybody "My boy, my dear boy!" Another capital singer-chairman was Fred Lawson—of the Prince of Wales's Concert Hall, Wolverhampton. Like Jonghmanns, he was labelled a buffo vocalist, which in the sixties meant an interpreter of such compositions as "The wolf," "Will o' the wisp," "The little fat grey man," "Widow Malone," &c.

The Hairless Wolf.

Charles Sloman, the "improvisatore," who has been referred to in our article on "Topical Songs and Singers," hardly comes under the heading of "Chairmen I Have Met," but there is a good story told of him when, in his last days, he was engaged, as a matter of charity, as chairman of the Mogul (now the Middlesex Empire), in Drury-lane. Sloman was once celebrated for his singing of "The wolf," and every night the gods used to raise a frantic cry of "Wolf! Wolf!" in order to draw Charlie, just as they do to-day in connection with Chirgwin and "The blind boy." One night, it was very late, and Sloman had been treated too liberally by the gentlemen around the chairman's table. As usual, up went the cry of "The wolf!" The only English improvisatore staggered, lurched on to the stage, and then said: "Gentlemen, I'm bothered if I can sing that beastly old brute 'The wolf.' I've sung him so often that there's not a blessed hair left on his wretched body."

A Versatile Veteran.

The London chairmen of the seventies and eighties were gifted with versatility. John Read, of Collins's—happily still a hardy veteran—was one of the best song-writers of his day. A fine figure of a man, he had in his early career been a motto vocalist; and his wife, Miss Beatrice Bermond, had a vogue as a serio-comic. One had to be circumspect at Collins's, both on the stage and in the hall; and John was a stern disciplinarian. Once, however, he was rather seriously taken to task by one of the frequenters of the "Little Hall upon Islington Green," who became very talkative. To John's stern admonition, "Less noise, please," the reply came quickly, "Less noise be blowed: this ain't a bloomin' church!" John took the happiest view of life. As a song-writer he was an invincible optimist. The following verse, if not exactly worthy of Burns, positively glows with warmth and hearth and home cheeriness:—

Sitting by the fireside smoking my long clay,
That is how I like to pass a winter night away;
A glass of grog, a flaming log that blazes now and then,
Upon my word, I do declare, I'm the happiest of men.

A Regular Crusher.

Tom Tinsley, who died a couple of years or so ago, was at one time chairman of Gatti's (Arches), and later became manager for both establishments—the one in Villiers-street and the other in the Westminster Bridge Road—was always very proud of the fact that he gave Harry Lauder his first chance in London. Tom came to the metropolis from the Potteries, and as a comic singer gave Londoners some bucolic philosophy in his song, "A countryman's simple idea," which, however, did not secure the popularity of his "pastoral" "All among the apples and pears." He was the fattest and heaviest-looking chairman in London, or anywhere else, but took in very good part the chaff of the profession about his girth and weight, and in his day was very popular with the profession. The late George Beauchamp, the singer of "Oh, dem golden kippers," and an inveterate practical joker, during an engagement at the Arches, asked Tom one night to share a hansom home. The cab was engaged and waiting outside the hall for Tom. Appearing on the scene the man of ponderous avoirdupois was just about to get in the cab, when George shouted out, "Wait a minute, Tom!" and rushing up to the animal placed his hat before its unblinkered eyes, adding: "You can get in now; but don't let the gee-gee see you, or he'll never take us home."

The Chairman Fire-Fighter.

In its latter days the stranger within the doors of Deacon's, the music hall near Sadler's Wells—known locally as the "Glue Pot"—sometimes assisted as an astonished watcher at a very peremptory fire drill. It was the pet idea of its last proprietor to organise his staff as an amateur fire brigade. Sam Sutton, who wielded the hammer, would, at the ear-piercing sound of a shrill whistle, suddenly dash his whisky and soda down on the table, dive beneath the recesses behind his chair, fish out a fireman's helmet, struggle into a fireman's tunic, buckle on a belt, and flourish an axe as if it was the tomahawk of a Cherokee of the Rocky Mountains. The stranger unused to the experience trembled at the aspect of Sam, the fire-fighter. For the moment he acted the part of a fierce person. He wore a determined look and a coat two sizes too large for him, and his air of truculence suggested that he was thirsting for blood—and he never thirsted long. He was really a gentle, docile creature—the mildest-mannered motto vocalist that one could possibly meet. As soon as the hose was run out by janitors, the check-takers handled formidable-looking nozzles, and everything was ready to cope with the conflagration that fortunately never came. It was a useful as well as a cheap precaution, because the time occupied in its rehearsal might have been more expensively taken up by the deputy for the star who was suffering from indisposition. In those days at Deacon's if we were not frighted with false fire, we were made merry by false alarms!

MADAME WALTER
takes this opportunity of wishing the Members of her Orchestras, her Clients, and her Friends a pleasant Christmas and a Brighter 1916.
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BLUE EYES.
WE'LL HAVE A JUBILEE IN MY OLD KENTUCKY HOME.
SPRINKLE ME WITH KISSES.
WHEN THE MOON SHINES BRIGHT ON CHARLIE CHAPLIN
GOOD-BYE, VIRGINIA.
WHEN THE ANGELUS IS RINGING.
YOU GREAT BIG WONDERFUL BABY.
OH! OH! FOR THE SIGHT OF A GIRL.
WHEN IT'S NIGHT-TIME DOWN IN DIXIELAND.
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WE'RE ALL NORTH COUNTRY LADS AND LASSES.

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A little later the Terry Brothers have a scene in which they prove that they can do something else besides looking bewilderingly alike. They have a little boxing match. To the uninstructed observer, the brief glove fight is conducted with a fearful brutality; but there is obviously an illusion somewhere; and the audience sends shriek after shriek of laughter up to High Heaven at the sight of one Terry knocking the other Terry's face about with remorseless and unrestrained ferocity. You could hear the padded thumps a tremendous distance away, every time the audience stopped laughing for a moment in order to get its breath back.—*Bystander, Dec.* 15.

*** The Curate is troubled by his inability to distinguish Mrs. Mitt and Miss Muggs, or C. Terry and F. Terry (one of whom is Mr. Mitt), from each other, and therefore to find out which couple wants their banns published, and which their baby christened.—*Sporting and Dramatic News, Dec.* 18.

TREMENDOUS SUCCESS

THE TWIN "SAMPLES"

OF THAT NAME IN THE PLAYHOUSE REVUE

PANTOMIMES IN SCOTLAND.

"TOM THE PIPER" AT GLASGOW.

Mr. Rich. Waldon, at the Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, on Saturday night produced the 36th Princess's pantomime. Founded on the rhyme that tells how "Tom, Tom, the piper's son, stole a pig and away he run," the plot contains no striking departure from pant traditions. There is the wicked Baron, his beautiful daughter, the village Widow and her attractive son, and the noble sentiment that love levels all ranks. Once again Mr. Waldon is responsible for the book, and as an actor and manager of ripe experience he not only sees that every member of the cast is provided with telling and effective lines, but, what is more, sees that they give them due and necessary emphasis, so that every word produces its desired effect.

The scenery is mostly by the resident scenic artist here, Mr. J. C. Bontor, and includes a picturesque opening scene, The Sour-Milk Dairy, also good sets entitled The Ship's Deck, The Raft, The Isle of Blissful Delight, The Express Train (à la the Swiss Express), The Haunted Chamber, and the closing palace scene, Reception of the Allies. Four of the front scenes are by Mr. N. Hinchey, and all are good examples of scenic art.

Mr. Waldon's ability at securing clever people for his pantomimes is again demonstrated in his choice of principals. Miss Lily Vine makes a first-rate hero as Tom the Piper, and was on the best of terms with the audience from her first entrance. Her singing is artistic, without any suggestion of effort, and the rapt attention accorded her songs, and the hearty applause that followed them, must have been very gratifying to her. In "The girl from Lancashire," "First one to teach me to love," "When the Angelus is ringing," "Kentucky home," "All fall in," and "Virginia," she is provided with half-a-dozen decided hits. Miss Winnie Goodwin plays the part of principal girl on original lines as regards dress and make-up. Her songs, "What do we care," "What you've never had you never miss," and her eccentric dances in conjunction with Mr. Cecil Schofield, caught the fancy of the audience, and were well received. That clever young Scotch comedienne, Miss Gladys Wyse, is back again this year, and got the welcome accorded to popular favourites. Her various dances in kilts were enthusiastically applauded, and her songs, "Take me to the cinema," "When we march to Berlin town," and the "Redwing" parody, "The moon shines bright on Charlie Chaplin," were equally popular. The Sisters Rosie and Ida Jerome are well placed as second boy and girl, and took well in everything they did. They are neat dancers, and have several catchy vocal items, notably "Everybody's crazy on the fox trot," "Pine Tree Hill," and "That dreamy lullaby."

Heading the list of comedians comes Mr. Sam Thomson. He has a fund of humour all his own, and is responsible for a lot of smart gags and business. His appearance in every scene was the signal for hilarity, whether as a Don Juan on the Isle of Blissful Delight, or as a passenger on a ship turning "awfu' seek," or as a burlesque conductor in the scene with Miss Ida Jerome, where this lady acts and sings extremely well, and the versatile Sam proves himself the possessor of a pleasant and tuneful baritone voice. Though we have accorded first place to our own Scotch comedian, we have a high opinion of the ability of Mr. Edwin Dodds. As Do-it-all he works like a hero for the success of the pantomime, and many of the best scenes in it are to be credited to his cleverness and versatility. He is an adept in the art of pantomimic burlesque, and his fun in the boat scene, the haunted chamber, the raft and island scenes, and in the railway train incidents, all stamp him as a comedian of sterling ability and infinite resource. With Mlle. Simonne Vann, the Frou-Frou of the cast, he has an intensely funny scene, in which the lady's French and his English seem to be at cross-purposes, with most amusing effect. Messrs. Frank Wheeler and Ernie Wilson add to the fun with their clever comedy, and their "Rhoda rode to Ryde" and "Private Michael Cassidy" songs go well, while their interrupted "Cubanola glide" was responsible for many hearty laughs. Mr. Fred Richards makes a very good Dame, amusing all through and without a trace of vulgarity. Dressed with a touch of eccentric humour, he is of invaluable service in all the funny business. Mr. Fred Russell is also well placed at the Baron, and gives a very good performance indeed. Mr. Syd Lansdowne makes a hit with a clever impersonation of Charlie Chaplin, and the cast is completed by Miss Alice Burnett as Prettipet and Miss Irma Darling as Fairy Allgood. The stage effects have been designed by Mr. J. C. Bontor, assisted by Messrs. Matthews and Logan; the trick properties are by Mr. George Cloud; the electric devices by Mr. M'Auley; and the rich and pretty dresses are by the resident costumier, Miss Binnie, and by Alias, London. Mr. Robert M'Leod conducts the pantomime, and, as before, Mr. Rich. Waldon supervised the entire production, seeing to every detail, and at the conclusion of the evening he was able to acknowledge with heartfelt thanks the reception accorded to his latest pantomime by an audience that filled the theatre to overflowing.

"MOTHER GOOSE," AT DUNDEE.

The first pantomime to be seen in Dundee this season was "Mother Goose," which was presented by Mr. Harry M'Kelvie at the King's on Monday evening. From start to fall of curtain there was no doubting the success of the production. Mr. Richard Waldon (of the Princess's Theatre, Glasgow) has written a very entertaining book. Mr. John Hatton, the musical director, has provided a delightful selection of haunting refrains, rousing choruses, and catchy melodes, the orchestration being specially commendable. The pantomime is played in ten scenes, several of which are conspicuous examples of beautiful stagecraft, being replete with rich colouring which harmonises artistically with the pretty costumes.

Miss Gertie Rex, as Teddy, a young Middy, proved herself well qualified in every respect for the part of the hero of the fairy story, displaying her singing powers in several taking numbers Miss Molly McCarthy, as Winnie, the village beauty, danced delightfully, her exhibitions of the Highland fling and other national dances being warmly applauded. A very pretty and popular duet, entitled "You are the first girl to teach me how to love," was contributed by Miss Rex and Miss McCarthy, and proved quite a hit. The chief merrymaker is Mr. Peter Bermingham as Billy Goose, and his exertions in the cause of mirth were crowned with deserved success. Other prominent funny men include Mr. George Byrne as Mother Goose, Mr. Macintosh Clyde as the Bold Bad Baron, Messrs. Wallace and Lorne as the Baron's associates in crime, Mr. Jack Lavelle as an officious custom-house official, Mr. Jack Spencer as the Goose (and right cleverly he represents her), and Mr. Sam Lavelle, who, as Pipkins the Pedlar, does good work.

Miss Kate Gourley looked and acted nicely as Jessie, and Miss Elsie May was a pleasing exponent of Fairy Contentment. The chorus and ballet reflected the utmost credit on Miss Lily Beven, who was responsible for their training. Mr. Harry M'Kelvie must be heartily congratulated on the production, which is certain to bring him and the theatres at which it is booked many golden eggs.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT GLASGOW.

On Saturday afternoon Messrs. Howard and Wyndham produced their 28th pantomime at the Theatre Royal, and a crowded house thoroughly enjoyed the fun incorporated with the old familiar story. As this year's annual is to be played twice nightly it is naturally more condensed than the usual pantomime at the Royal. It is given in seven scenes without an interval, and the initial performance went without a hitch of any kind, and lasted two and a quarter hours. The company engaged is an excellent one, and all the members entered into their work with the utmost enthusiasm.

Miss Winifred Roma makes a handsome and dashing Robin Hood, spoke her lines with emphasis and point, and caught the favour of the audience with all her songs. These included "Show me the way to your heart" and "Keep the home fires burning," both of which were charmingly rendered. Miss Violet Leicester is a most attractive Marian, and relies more on her ability as a dancer, in which she excels, than on her songs, though her one item, "Sprinkle me with kisses," proved popular. The Baron of Mr. J. H. Wakefield comes to claim his estates in Nottingham with a strong American accent and a pushful way that give a new interest to the part. He acts the part well, and in the comedy scenes with the Nurse, or the two Robbers, he proves himself a clever comedian. His songs, "Private Michael Cassidy, V.C.," and "Kentucky home," each with a smart eccentric dance tacked on, made instant successes.

Two Glasgow boys, well known on the variety stage—Charles Naughton and Jamie Gold—make an outstanding hit as the two "ruffi-ians," as the programme describes them. They come provided with a plentiful supply of clever and original business, show themselves resourceful in every scene from first to last, and though they do not rely on their Glasgow accent for any of their laughs, at intervals they give a word or two in the pocal patois, which helps to accentuate the humour.

Miss Nancie Hanton as Will Scarlett makes a handsome second boy. Her costume is a striking one, and her song, "Blue eyes," was received with enthusiasm. She takes her share in the love-making and in the working out of the plot, ably assisted by her sweetheart, Margot, attractively played by Miss Bertha Collins. Miss Lillie Soutter is well known to theatre-goers as a comedienne of rich eccentric humour, and as the Nurse she has a part that affords her unlimited scope. She fully shares in all the comedy scenes, and made a hit with that ridiculous parody, "The moon shines bright on Charlie Chaplin."

The Babes are played by two very clever little girls, Tiny Passow and Little Myra Rosalind. Their youthful naïveté caught the fancy of the audience at once, and all their songs, dances and business was very cleverly done for such young children. Tiny Passow sings a pretty song, "Dolly Dimple," and with her sister babe gives "First one to teach me to love" in a very taking way. Miss Ruchelle Pascova makes a picturesque good fairy as Puck. Mr. Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie, who stage-manages the production, also plays a small part as an elderly lawyer, by name M'Wheedle. The Tiller Troupe of singers and dancers give able assistance, and their quick-change song, "A little bit of French and a little bit of Scotch," was one of the hits of the performance. The Eight Dainty Dots, a very young octette of girls, sang and danced prettily, and their "Wonderful baby doll" was heartily encored. Another song that took well was the "Boys in khaki" given by Miss Winifred Roma and the chorus. In one scene Clarke's Crazy Cyclists introduce their clever speciality act on a weird and wonderful collection of cycles, dating back to the early red sandstone period.

The scenery of the pantomime is by Messrs. Thos. F. Dunn, Stafford Hall, Stanley Shuter, and George de Fauré. The principal set, Under the Greenwood Tree, is by Mr. Dunn, and he gives a humorous touch to a front cloth, Chestnut (Re)Vue, with doll's houses and Noah's Ark trees, which fits in with the funny business introduced here, consisting of old songs and gags from pantos. of the last twenty-five years. The final scene, Chessboard Palace, by George de Faure, is novel and striking in the idea and the working out of the costume colour changes. The opening performance was under the personal direction of Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Mr. Alfred Carpenter conducted the orchestra, and the resident staff at the Royal had done their work well in the property, electric, scenic and other responsible departments. Mr. Harry F. Ashton, acting manager here, had three large audiences on the opening day, and at the matinée a strong representation of the profession were precent.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT EDINBURGH.

The King's Theatre is first in the field this year in Edinburgh with a pantomime, "Dick Whittington" having commenced its season on Thursday, 16th inst., to a crowded and enthusiastic house, which augured well for a long and successful run. The entire production is from the London Palladium. The management has done wisely in securing as principal boy Miss Lily Morris, who attained great popularity in the King's followed her first song; a patriotic ditty achieved panto. of "Jack and the Beanstalk" last year, and whose reception on Thursday evening was of the most gratifying kind. An enthusiastic encore similar favour; and for a choice topical number the singer was recalled again and again. Miss Morris is happily supported by Eddie Foy in the rôle of the cat, Togo, the clever mimicry of the animal and his antics being amusing in the extreme; and the cast all round is excellently chosen. A delightfully demure Alice is found in Miss Florrie Elliston, her artistic singing greatly charming her hearers; Miss Ruby Lingard as the Princess Mameena received a very kindly greeting; and the Fairy Sunbeam, in the bright person of Miss Mignon Elise, quickly dances herself into favour; while a trio of danseuses, the Three Jewels, also give a graceful display of their art; and the Gaetano Juvenile Troupe, twenty-four in number, form a pleasing chorus of vocalists and dancers.

Among the comedians Mr. Chas. A. Stephens as Idle Jack works off many comicalities; Mr. Chas. Fisher makes Fitzwarren as loquacious and much funnier than an Alderman usually is; the Dame part of Martha affords Mr. Maxwell Carew the opportunity of cleverly imitating an operatic soloist; the Captain and Mate, as represented by Messrs. Walton and Lester, do not limit themselves to mere ship routine work, but do comic conjuring and other vaudeville entertaining with diverting ingenuity. Mr. Charles Wakeman is quite at home in the rôle of an Emperor; Mr. H. Ward Kemp brings a fine baritone voice to his aid in rendering the part of King Rat duly impressive by singing "The Storm Fiend" with telling effect; and quite a remarkable acrobatic exhibition is given on shipboard by Six Crazy Sailors.

The scenery is very artistic, one scene in particular, the Emperor's Garden, being a "thing of beauty." The costumes, too, are all very pleasing, and the music throughout is admirably played by the orchestra under the able direction of Mr. A. Douglas Wilcox.

LAWRENCE WRIGHT'S SONGS.

It is a long time since a ballad was received with such applause as was the great "Blue eyes" at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on the opening night of Mr. F. Wyndham's gorgeous pantomime. Miss Nancie Hanton is the fortunate singer, to whose ot fell the honours of the evening. The whole house swayed to the alluring melody of this magnificent song, which was immediately voted by Glasgonians to be the one big song hit of the pantomime.

Miss Dorothy Ward's choice of song is usually followed with keen interest by all the stars of the pantomime world, and the fact that this ideal principal boy has picked for her big ballad the one and only "Blue eyes" should erase any doubts as to which is the best ballad of the year. Miss Ward is taking no chances—she has "tried out" all the season's ballads—and has come to the conclusion that there is only one for her—the indomitable "Blue Eyes."

Burr and Hope have scored an immediate success with their new act at the Victoria Palace this week. The whole of their numbers were specially supplied by Lawrence Wright, who has been the recipient of endless congratulations on their excellence.

At the Euston last week Burr and Hope, who have been making such a success with "Blue eyes," tried out a new ballad by Lawrence Wright and Frank Maybin, entitled "Come to my garden enchanted," about which much should be heard in the near future. On the same bill Miss Maud Hughes, an excellent soprano vocalist, had the entire audience singing the refrain of "Blue eyes."

"She was an angel of mercy," Lawrence Wright's splendid song and recitation in memory of the late Nurse Cavell, was an instantaneous success with Miss Olive Armidale at the Lyric, Liverpool.

Bert Errol, the phenomenal "lady" (?) vocalist, is making "Blue eyes" his principal number everywhere. He will feature this song at the Oxford next week.

Miss Kate Carney has given a special permission for her song "Somewhere in France, dear mother," to be sung in pantomime at the Elephant and Castle by Miss Eva Ellis. Several other Lawrence Wright songs will be featured, including "Blue eyes," "Lovers' lane," "There's a little baby up in the moon," "There'll be nothing but boys in khaki by the seaside," "What do we care," and "Oh! for the sight of a girl."

MUSIC HALL LADIES' GUILD.

3, Newport House, Gt. Newport Street, W.C.

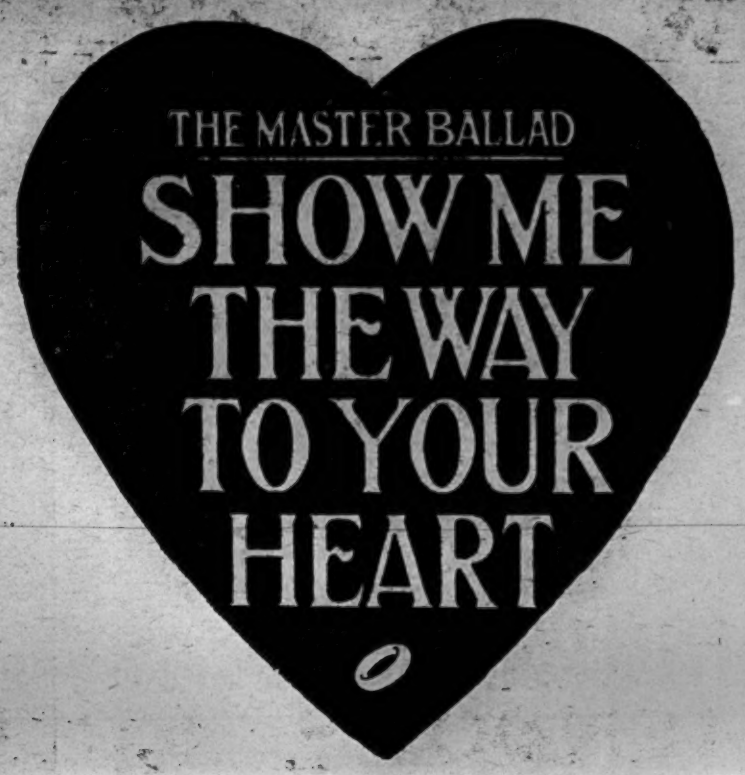
The secretary on behalf of the above committee gratefully thanks those who have so kindly contributed towards the children's Christmas tree, held at the Horns Hotel, Kennington, on Tuesday. Sir Joseph Lyons, £2 2s.; Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, £2 2s.; Mr. E. D. Mackay, £1 1s. (per Mrs. Chas. Coborn); Mrs. Beaufoy, £1 1s., all the way from New Zealand (per Miss Louie Vere); Mrs. Herbert Shelley, £1; Miss Carrie Laurie, 5s.; Miss E. G. Clarke, 5s.; Mr. Gerard Gunn, 5s.; Miss Kate Toole, 2s.; Mrs. Martin Adeson, 1s.

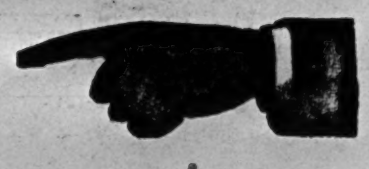
Miss Maude Mortimer collected the following: Miss Daisy Wood £1 1s., Mr. Van Hoven 10s., Frank and Vesta 5s., Corpland and Shelley 4s., and Mr. Albert Letine 2s.

On Thursday at 12 o'clock the committee are giving joints of English beef and a plum pudding to 50 families. Mr. Joe Elvin is thanked for 12 Christmas puddings; and Messrs. Barnet Emanuel, O'Kelly and Garcia Jacobs have kindly sent boxes or oranges and apples. Miss Florence Hunton, Mrs. G. H. Chirgwin, Five Real Sisters, and Miss Nellie Clarence have sent boxes of toys and books, Mr. Avis, boxes of bonbons.

The STAR Co. SCORE the SENSATIONAL HITS

In MR. F. W. WYNDHAM'S Gorgeous Production "BABES IN THE WOOD," at the THEATRE ROYAL, GLASGOW, where MISS WINIFRED ROMA makes the Hit of the Pantomime with





The Babes—MISS TINY PASSOW and LITTLE MYRA ROSALIND Secure Innumerable Encores and Thunders of Applause for

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The Charming TILLER GIRLS Score a Big Hit with

SERGEANT MACADOO

While Two other Great Successes in the Same Pantomime are

WHAT YOU'VE NEVER HAD YOU NEVER MISS AND THEY ALL DID THE GOOSE-STEP.

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MISS LILY VINE Wins Vocal Triumphs with

YOU WERE THE FIRST ONE — WE MUST ALL FALL IN

SISTERS JEROME Signally Successful with

THAT DREAMY LULLABY — CRAZY ON THE FOX TROT

MISS WINNIE GOODWIN creates a Furore with

WHAT YOU'VE NEVER HAD YOU NEVER MISS

OTHER BIG HITS IN GLASGOW PANTOMIMES

STOP SHORT. WHEN SANDY M'KIE COMES BACK TO INVERARY.
THE CROCODILE CRAWL. ANY MORE for the BOAT TRAIN?
GET THAT GIRL. TING-TING TRA-LA-LA.

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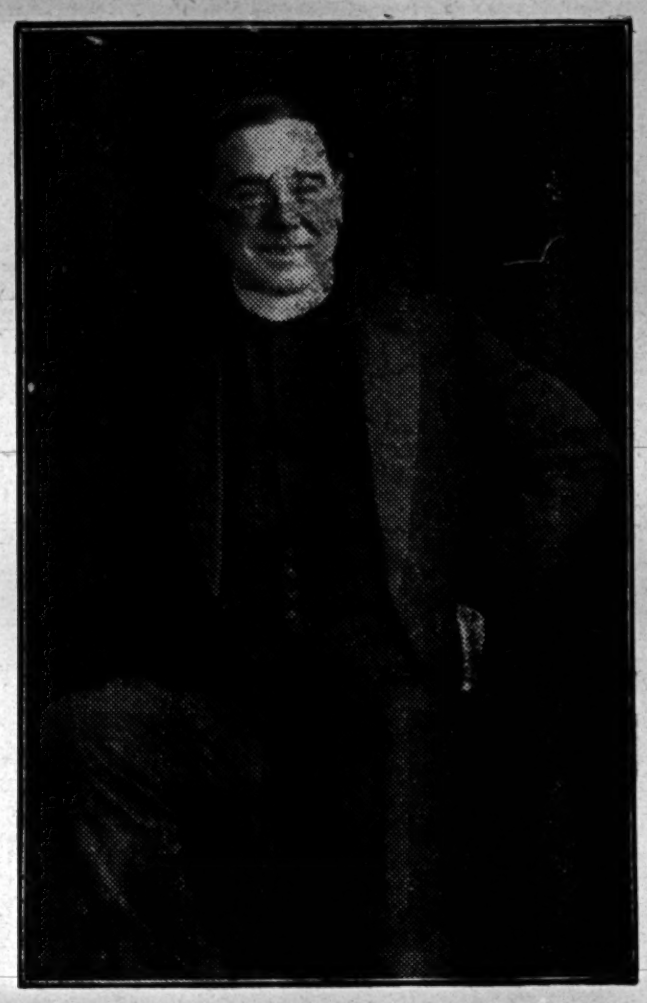

[Photo by Elliott and Fry.
VIVIAN FOSTER.

MAY CARTER

[Photo by Hana.
MAY CARTER.

PRINCIPAL LADY

in

Mr. Fred Kitchen's Revue:

"ALL NONSENSE."

This:

County Theatre, Bedford

THE OLD PRO'S STAKES.

"THE ERA'S" COLLECTION FOR BRINSWORTH.

Influential names continue to be added to those who are backing Brinsworth for the Old Pro.'s Stakes. Joe Elvin is a jockey who never disappoints, and backers may follow his mount with every confidence. The list now includes:—

Oswald Stoll, Esq., Arthur Collins, Esq., Percy B. Broadhead, Esq., Bert Feldman, Esq., C. Cochran, Esq., A. Chudleigh, Esq., Mlle. Alice Delysia, Miss Margaret Delany, Miss Maidie Scott, Mr. Neil Kenyon, Frank and Jen Latona, Mr. G. H. Elliott, Mr. Herbert Shelley, Miss Nora Delany, Miss Florrie Forde, Mlle. Adeline Genée, Miss Marjorie Patterson, Mr. Mark Sheridan, Mr. Fred Emney, Martin Adeson and Clara Bernard, Violet Loraine, Robb Wilton, Syd Walker, Mr. Pat Doherty, Mr. James Atray, Miss Susie Bevan, the Great Maurice, Miss Helen Brinckman, Mr. John Chisholm, Walton and Lester, Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks, Mr. Geo. Formby, Mr. Will Sley, Mr. A. W. Deer, Mr. Bert Lloyd, Messrs. Willson's (Printing Works, Leicester), Mr. J. S. Elias ("John Bull"), Mr. George Denby, Mr. Bennett Scott, Mr. George Mozart, Hector and Miss Lolletta, Miss Dolly Ray, Captain Devereux, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar King, Mr. Nat. Wheeler (Simpson's), Mr. Walter Idris, Mr. B. Sherek, "John Bull" Human Document Fund, Prof. John Buer and Domino, Felix Pitt, McPherson (with his piano and accordion), Phil Rees, Fuji Family, Miss Dolly Varden, Mr. Edward Cranston, the Elliott-Savonas, "C. N.," Gracie Vicat, Fred Greenlees, Paul Rochefort, Alf. Cawthorn, Tom Lloyd, A. Borthwick, Harry Champion, Sisters Gaye, Fred Conquest, Brothers Webb, Edward Thane, Kitty Stewart, Cecilia Dare, Wm. Armstrong, H. and M. Rayne (sale of Rayne's Date Books), collection by C. J. Saliley (Empire, Stockport), subscribed to by J. H. Oakden, J. Baffry, Mac Sweeney, J. W. Churchill, C. Avolo, G. Avolo, Frivkin, Miss O'Hanlon, Miss Chard; collection by Syd Walker, subscribed to by Lily Leamore, James Leslie, Signor Borelli, Reginald Adair, William Clark, Kitty Collinson, Katherine Adair, Jessie Ewart, Allan Leslie, Harry Daniels, Joe Clarke, Jackson Dancers, Mrs. Barrett, Mabel Thomas, Mrs. Hilaby, Mr. Hilaby, W. Seaman, J. Turner; "W. F. B.," Gus Fowler, Messrs. David Allen and Son; collected by Harland and Rollison (Poole's Myriorama Co.), subscribed to by Prince Kuroki, George Snow, Goodall and Knox, Chef Parker, P. F. Cowper, "R. T.," Berry and Hart, W. S. Smith, Harland and Rollison; G. Ranger, "N.S.B.D." Basil Scott (Charlene and Charlene), Sydney Vereker, Miss Mona Limerick; collected by J. Adkin, subscribed to by Rex Fox, J. Adkin, H. Karr, A. Carnworth, M. Maden, Anna Kemp, Alice Gill, Madge Raynor; F. V. St. Clair, Mendel, "R.," Geo. R. Belmont, Pat, Doris, and Avice; Fred Solo, Maurice Arioso; collection by Sam Hilton, contributed to by Sergeant-Major Bell and Sergeant Slack, Heavy Battery, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Sam Hilton.

Meanwhile, the number of "My Bookmakers" is increasing, and strenuous efforts are being made by artistes, both ladies and gentlemen, to gain a

Tablet in the Old Pro's Home

at Brinsworth, a project that has the hearty approval of the founder of the home.

More Artistes Are Wanted

to make a book. Please apply at once for our little vest-pocket book, which, though small, will accommodate many bob bets, and will help towards the cause of saving the Music Hall Home—otherwise known as the Old Pro.'s Paradise—from want.

Address all communications, The Hon. Treasurer, "The Era" Office.

All amounts will be published separately in "The Era" on the conclusion of the Old Pro's Stakes, the date of which will be duly announced.

"THE FORTY THIEVES," AT DUBLIN.

The Dublin pantomime season opened on Monday, the 20th, at the Queen's, when Mr. John Tiller's pantomime, "The Forty Thieves," was produced to a house crowded in every part. Much praise is due to Mr. George Conquest, who was responsible for the stage management of the entire production.

The opening scene reveals a wealth of Oriental splendour, depicting the Market-place of Bagdad, the costumes of the ballet being beautiful creations, whilst the scene itself was perfect in detail. Here we are introduced to Ganem, Miss Nan Chester, a dashing principal boy, and Morgiana, Miss Josey Leyton, the vivacious and charming principal girl, their singing and dancing receiving much applause. Here also we have Alfred Hicks and Billy Peters as Casserac and Hasserac, two knockabouts, whose funny ways create much laughter. In the third scene, representing a mountain gorge—entrace to cave, Miss Josey Leyton received several encores for a pretty song and dance, "Dancing 'neath tre Irish moon," in which she is charmingly supported by the Twelve Little Mascots, a troupe of well-trained children. "Kentucky home" also came in for much applause. Most of the fun of the pantomime is entrusted to Paddy Duprés (as Cogia), a native of Dublin, who kept the audience in one continuous roar of laughter whilst on the stage. He is well supported by Mr. Charles Dent, as Ali Baba, and Mr. Sam Ello as Cassim, the comedy work business being excellent. Especially worthy of praise is the clever impersonation of the Donkey by Mr. George Conquest, junr., his antics causing much amusement. Miss Josie Hammersley as Abdullah, the Prince, is gifted with a delightful voice and good stage presence.

THE OLD VIC.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—May we beg the hospitality of your columns to call attention to the work being carried on at the Royal Victoria Hall, popularly known as the Old Vic.?

The trustees of this theatre have formed a stock company under the direction of Mr. Ben Greet, and are staging a different play of Shakespeare and one grand opera in English every week; thus there is actually in being a People's Repertory Theatre. By dint of incessant work and unflagging enthusiasm, the management and staff are keeping their flag flying, but it is an uphill fight.

Books of tickets for a series of performances are obtainable on application to the management, and we venture to suggest that all who are interested in the classical drama should obtain these and distribute them in the place of a more hackneyed Christmas present.

We are, dear sir, yours faithfully,

Henry Ainley.	Virginia Compton.
Lena Ashwell.	(Mrs. Edward Compton.)
Constance Benson.	Rev. Stewart Headlam.
F. R. Benson.	H. B. Irving,
Acton Bond.	Matheson Lang.
Lilian Braithwaite.	Ben Webster.
Hutin Britton.	J. Fisher White.

Dec., 1915.

NEW PICTURE HOUSE AT SUNDERLAND.

The opening of the Havelock Picture House took place on Dec. 15. It is the twenty-third theatre of its kind belonging to the Provincial Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd., and has the distinction of being the largest they have so far erected. The interior is decorated principally with dark-coloured tapestries, which blend homogeneously with a dark oak dado and panelling. The entire building is carpeted with handsome Axminster of unique design.

The theatre itself contains seating accommodation for 1,500 people, tip-up chairs being exclusively used. The ventilating system is of a highly perfected design, and the hall is adequately heated with radiators. The performance is of the continuous character, the charges for admission being 1s. and 6d. It need scarcely be said that the film programme will be of a high order, as the company's reputation is already firmly established in that respect. An orchestra of talented musicians is under the direction of Mr. Alexander Hambourg, and the music is so arranged that it may synchronise with the pictures.

Contiguous with the theatre is a café, the two being connected by the tea balcony, a delightful retreat, where refreshment may be taken while pictures are being viewed.

In addition to this café the premises contain a chintz tea room for ladies, the decorating scheme being in a high key, and a smoke-room for gentlemen, which is designed on Elizabethan half-timbered lines. The catering for all the cafés is controlled by the company personally. The electric fittings are in perfect harmony with the distinctive surroundings.

The opening ceremony was performed by Samuel Storey, Esq., D.L., who, in an interesting speech, informed his hearers that the directors of the Provincial Cinematograph Theatres Co. had promised him a substantial cheque, which he was to devote to the various local charities. Mr. Frederick Smith is the company's resident manager.

WEST AND CO.'S SONGS.

Artistes who have left the selection of their pantomime numbers to the last minute should not fail to call at 24, Rathbone-place, and see West's novelties for this season. Their big song, "There's a long, long trail," was sung with tremendous success by Miss Ruby Lingard at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, pantomime on Friday last. It is also being sung this week in the revue "'Snice," at Ilford. "I want some loving" is going to be a big feature of the King's Theatre (Hammersmith) pantomime. Artistes should make a note of this song, which will undoubtedly be heard more of in the near future.

Huntley Trevor and Sullivan Brooke's new picture song, "You do look sweet (in your dress of Red, White and Blue)," makes its début at the Lyceum very shortly, and singers requiring a really pretty picture number need not look any further.

Miss Betty Barclay and a Baritone are putting on a new number, published by West and Co., at Aston, Birmingham, next week. The song is called "I want my home in Ohio," and is by Miss Barclay's accompanist, H. B. Hedley, the words being by Eric Blore. Worked as Miss Barclay and her partner know so well how to, this song should prove an immediate success.

Do not fail to write in to the Rathbone-place house for a copy of "Whoops! Mister Melody Feller," by Huntley Trevor and Tom Mellor. Better still, call in and have it run through.

THE JOE GILBERT MUSIC CO.

Nava and Travers, musical and vocal act, report big success with "Mine." Ray and Zack are rehearsing "Some baby," which they will be featuring shortly.

Mortimer and Wallace, a coloured comedy musical act, are also using "Mine" as a selection in their act. Miss Velma Ellis, who is singing the charming number in Harry Day's revue, "Excuse Me," says this is the greatest song she has had for years. The Hudsons say "Mine" is a real winner.

Little Elsie Prince reports a hit with "Virginia Lee," which is also being featured with very great success by Two Rascals and Jacobson. Manny and Roberts, the American act, will shortly be featuring a new Gilbert number, and the Seven Nobodies are delighting audiences with "Oh, you beautiful band," and "Oh, you little bear!"

HERBERT RALLAND and WALTER PASSMORE present

DUCKS AND QUACKS

A New Musical Comedy Revue

Written by HERBERT C. SARGENT. Lyrics by HUGH E. WRIGHT. Music by KENNEDY RUSSELL.

Walter Passmore

JOHNNY DANVERS

AGNES FRASER

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BLUE EYES

Will be sung by MISS DOROTHY WARD at Leeds.

BLUE EYES

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IN A CLASS BY ITSELF.

MINE.

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MINE, when the dawn is breaking,
MINE, in my dreams at night;
MINE, when the birds are waking;
MINE, when the stars are bright.
MINE, when the years are flying;
MINE, with a glory divine;
MINE, with a love never dying,
MINE, now and always mine.

TWO BIG HITS

VIRGINIA LEE.

SOME BABY.

JOE G. GILBERT'S ORIGINAL PATRIOTIC IDEA

MY LIFE BELONGS TO OLD JOHN BULL BUT MY HEART STILL BELONGS TO YOU.

TWO BIG HITS

OH THAT BEAUTIFUL BAND.

OH YOU LITTLE BEAR.

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"CHARLEY'S AUNT" CLUB.

"Charley's Aunt" Club's third annual social, given at the London Opera House on Sunday evening, was quite a fitting sequel to the event of the previous afternoon—the revival of the late Mr. Brandon Thomas's world-famous comedy. The Club consists of over a thousand members, and Sunday evening's social gathering was quite a representative one, the company present including Mrs. Brandon Thomas and Miss Amy Brandon Thomas. It is worthy of note that thirteen male members are holding commissions, while four are serving in the ranks. One of the former, Captain Geoffrey Gilbert, has been decorated with the Military Cross. Lieut. J. Brandon Thomas, the late author-actor's son, died of wounds received in the fighting at Armentières last October.

In the course of the evening the veteran actor, Mr. J. D. Beveridge, was called upon to say a few words. He said he could claim the privilege of being a very old friend of the late Mr. Brandon Thomas. From all he had heard from friends and had read in the Press regarding the revival of the comedy Mrs. Brandon Thomas would be amply rewarded for her pluck in taking that huge house for such a little lady as "Charley's Aunt."

Mr. Cecil Barth, who had the management of affairs, and discharged his duties in his usual genial and business-like style, said he had been asked by Mrs. Brandon Thomas to thank Mr. Beveridge and the members of the "Charley's Aunt's" present and previous companies for their presence and support on that occasion. The gathering that evening was larger than they had ever had before, and was likely to increase as the membership of the Club increased. Indeed, they looked forward to one day engaging the Albert Hall itself.

The concert programme proved to be of excellent quality, Miss Minette Jones and Miss Irene Milton opening it with a duet, "Echoes," followed by Mr. Arthur Wayland, who gave a fine rendering of the Prologue to "I Pagliacci." Miss Dorothy Holmes-Gore scored with two short recitations, "The Sparrow" and "Grandma's Prayer"; Miss Irene Penso played a violin solo, "Invitations," in charming style. Mr. J. R. Cranford recited most effectively a war poem, by Hector McKay, which was first given at a Red Cross Fund matinée at Dundee. Miss Minette was successful in her rendering of "The land of the long ago"; Miss Marjorie Thompson delighted the audience with a 'cello solo; Miss Surrey Vaughan recited "Kissed the cook" excellently. Mr. George Baker was heard to advantage in "Lorraine," and as an encore "The floral dance"; Second Lieut. Darck Leverson was well applauded for his capital rendering of "Up from Somerset" and "A short cut." Miss Amy Brandon Thomas gave in admirable style a recitation written by her father. Miss Dorothy Wayland's violin solo was a much-appreciated item, and Miss Irene Milton sang "My ships" with apt expression. A humorous little sketch, written by Mr. J. R. Crauford, and played for the first time by Messrs. Percy Crauford and Jas. E. Page, proved a big success, the scene being an agent's office where a couple of hard-up pros. meet. Funny stories, told by Messrs. Sydney Compton and Mr. George Bull, gave diversity to the programme.

EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES.

A meeting of the L.C.C.'s Public Control Committee was held at the County Hall on Friday for the purpose of licensing employment agencies. The applications for renewal of existing licences included the following:—

Alfred Auckland, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, theatrical and variety artistes; the Albion Concert Bureau, Coptic-street, New Oxford street, musical artistes; G. W. Gerald's Variety Agency, Basset Chambers, Bedfordbury, variety artistes; George Pearson, Honor Oak Park, theatrical and variety artistes; A.M.U. Musical Agency, Great Newport-street, concert, musical and entertainment artistes; B. Sherek's Agency, Lisle-street, theatrical and variety artistes; Leslie's Agency, theatrical and variety artistes; Edward Marris, Charing Cross-road, theatrical and variety artistes; Leonard Stuart's Agency, Poland House, Oxford-street, orchestral and variety artistes; the Garrick Dramatic Agency, Dean-street, Soho; Universal Variety Agency, Criterion Chambers, Jermyn-street.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—Owing to some confusion having arisen I shall be glad if you will print this letter together with footnote.—Faithfully yours,

HAZEL HAMMOND
(Mrs. Stuart Cleuland).

HAMMOND-DENT.—On April 26, 1914, at St. Matthew's, Oakley-square, N., by the Rev. E. Bragginton-Bird, Thomas Trotter Hammond (Stuart Cleuland), son of the late Captain Thomas Hammond, to Hazel Gladys, daughter of the late Admiral C. B. C. Dent.

THE PROOF OF THE PUDDING is in the Eating, so they say,
and
THE PUBLIC ARE GOING TO JUDGE
YOUR PANTOMIME
in just the same way, viz.,
BY WHAT YOU HAVE IN IT,—
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AND OUR BIG BALLAD "I KNOW I'D STILL LOVE YOU"

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"CHARLEY'S AUNT" AGAIN IN TOWN.

That frolicsome old lady from Brazil, after her yearly peregrinations in the provinces, is back again in town, this year putting up at the London Opera House. On Saturday afternoon a large audience, which included a number of wounded heroes and their ministering angels, gave Mr. Brandon Thomas's comic classic the heartiest of welcomes, and it was played throughout to an accompaniment of the heartiest laughter.

Mr. Percy Crawford, who plays Lord Fancourt Babberley in the present revival, gives a very droll impersonation of the "Aunt," the assumed coyness of the supposed widow in the proposal scene being admirably expressed, and the portrayal throughout is a delightfully funny and easy one. The frisky and impecunious undergraduates, Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham, are played with the requisite breeziness and alertness by Mr. Geoffrey Wilmer and Mr. Arthur Murray; Mr. J. R. Crauford is excellent as the genial retired Indian officer, Sir Francis Chesney; Mr. James E. Page, as the lovelorn guardian, Stephen Spettigue, is responsible for a capital piece of acting, the chasing and proposal scenes with the "widow" proving most diverting; and Mr. Sydney Compton repeats his finished and quietly amazing impersonation of the imperturbable and diplomatic college scout, Brassett.

Miss Amy Brandon Thomas and Miss Marjorie Chard act with naturalness, charm, and a keen sense of fun at the embarrassments of their admirers, as Kitty Verdun and Amy Spettigue; Miss Dorothy Holmes-Gore is a bright and engaging Ela Delahay, and gave the requisite touch of romance to the character in her scene with "Babs"; and the real aunt from Brazil, Donna Lucia d'Alvadorez, is admirably realised by Miss Berry Dane, the scene with the supposed widow, where she relates the tale of Don Pedro, being particularly well played.

FLORENCE ETLINGER SCHOOL.

An attractive band of young Terpsichoreans, pupils of Miss Gwladys Dillon, gave a public display of their talents, under the auspices of the Florence Etlinger Operatic and Dramatic Company, at 60, Paddington-street, on the 15th inst. Where the level of attainment is so high, it is difficult indeed to distinguish any performer for special mention; but as some of the little artistes will shortly be making their first pirouette before the great public, their entrance into the career should not go unrecorded. Molly O'Shann is to understudy "Babe" in the Aldwych pantomime; Elsie Hall is to play child-lead in the Kingsway Christmas entertainment; and Marjorie Coulson will sustain a like proud position with the Liverpool Repertory Company. It is hard to say whether the clever and lucky youngsters should be more heartily congratulated on having Miss Dillon for teacher, or Miss Dillon on lighting upon such splendid natural material for the exercise of her talent for training.

Four of the versatile children—Marjorie Coulson, Ruth French, Vera Lennox, and Molly O'Shann—under the (copyright) title of "The Kute Kids Koncert Krowd"—came forward with an astonishingly clever little song, dance, and recitation revue, an excellent entertainment, which met with great approval from the large audience.

Other items on the programme were the "Seguedille" and duet, and the Quintette, Flower-song and following duet from "Carmen," given under the able direction of Miss Enriqueta Crichton. The part of the alluring gipsy was enacted by Miss Winifred Davis, a very good mezzo-soprano, with an agreeable stage presence and some dramatic ability. Mr. Sydney Russell was the Don José, and, although he seemed occasionally to be in difficulties with the emission of his voice, sang and acted well. The quintette went remarkably well considering that the Remendado and the Dancairo were both ladies, so that a solid vocal foundation was somewhat wanting.

Miss Adelaide Rind's beautiful voice was heard in the valse song from "Tom Jones," and Miss Cecily Trask gave old-English Folk Songs in costume in excellent style. Welcome musical selections were played by Miss Rosabel Watson's Æolian Quartette.

"CINDERELLA" AT HULL.

Hull has had its first taste of pantomime, Mr. Harry Russell again breaking the ice at the Tivoli. The subject chosen is that of "Cinderella," and Mr. Russell has gathered round him an interesting cast. The performance being a "twice-nightly" one, the panto. is compressed without loss of point, and runs through eight scenes, some of which are exceedingly pretty. In the name rôle Miss Dornit MacLaren plays with much charm, whilst a darling Prince Charming is found in Miss Madge Allen. As the page, Mr. Harry Russell proves himself a comedian of resource. The specialities include Fame and Fortune, acrobats; The Edison Trio, and Miss Kathleen Tremonde. There is an augmented orchestra, under Mr. Nat Lewin. The success attending the production is such that the visit has had to be extended.

Capital portraits of many favourite principal boys and girls and funny men are to be found in the "Sunday Chronicle" pantomime annual. Mr. Bransby Williams describes the evolution of his clever character study, "The Lounger"; Miss Vesta Tilley contributes an article, "Will Pantomime Survive?"; in a Poster Pantomime Mr. Will Scott amusingly satirises the characteristics of celebrities; and there is a handy pantomime directory. Altogether a very attractive pennyworth.

BEN GREET STUDENTS.

No fewer than fourteen of last season's students at the Ben Greet Academy have obtained professional engagements, and the numbers available at the performance given at the Bijou Theatre, Bedford-street, on Thursday, was necessarily limited. Only one male performer, as a fact, figured in the programme, and he was made the very most of, being given the part of Charles, the Wrestler, in scenes from "As You Like It," the curate in Keble Howard's comedietta, "Compromising Martha," and the invalid in Gertrude Jennings' farcical playlet, "The Rest Cure." Despite his arduous work, Mr. Bernard Jukes acquitted himself well in each character, and was never at a loss for his lines. The remainder of the parts in the Shakespeare selection were all played by ladies, Miss Enid Clarke being a comely and well-spoken Orlando and Miss Gwendoline Napier quite impressive as the Duke. Miss Elaine Denys has the voice and presence for the part of Rosalind, and takes the stage admirably, while as the Fair Cat of Miss Jennings' piece she played with commendable humour. Miss Madge Edwardes was a dainty Celia, acting with warmth and an appreciation of her words, and infused into the part of the Dark Cat all the necessary spirit.

A performance of Martha that did much credit to her teacher was given by Miss Muriel Hutton, whose quiet self-possession and facial play were very effective. Miss Coralie Carmichael was an engaging Monica, and acted with expression. Miss Muriel Andrews as a quaint Cockney "slavey" caused unlimited laughter. The performance had the benefit of Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn's able supervision, and Mrs. Llewellyn accompanied several songs and dances given by the pupils.

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NEIL KENYON

Wishes all his Friends

A Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

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VIVIAN FOSTER TELLS STORIES.

TWO STICKERS.

Once upon a time a flying performance was given at a hall in the North, with Mr. R. G. Knowles at the head of the bill, and myself at the foot. For some divers reasons only one other "turn" turned up, and when that was over only our two selves remained. I went on the stage and stayed there as long as I dared, and then "R. G." took the boards and remained to the end. But the audience was delighted, and Mr. Knowles was delighted, and I'm very sure that I was. Yet you can't please everyone. We soon had a rude awakening. Two men passed the open stage door, and one said to the other, "I expects the second 'ouse 'll get the full show. Them two chaps wouldn't come off!"

"HONI SOIT!"

In the period when I was the leader of The Grotesques, we once had a wait of two hours, one Sunday, at a western city. Mr. Albert Simner, our pianist, and myself adjourned to a hostelry and were served with a really good old-fashioned English Sabbath dinner. When the maid appeared with a pudding under a large electro-plated helmet, I said, "I'm longing to know what is under that cover!" She said, "You harre?" "No," I replied, "Hi ham!" Simner went off into a paroxysm of mirth. She looked at him for a moment, and then said, "I don't know what he's laughing at. It must be his evil thoughts."

UNSOLICITED FLATTERY.

I always write all my own patter, and the plagiarist is ever about. For pure *face* I think the following would be hard to beat. A man, whom I didn't know, wrote to me saying many flattering things for preface, and then continued, "I should love to give your speech at one of our concerts; it would cause such laughter. I've heard you ten times, and have nearly got it all off by heart, but I would deem it a great favour if you would write it all out for me, so that I can see whether I have forgotten any of the plums." And he didn't even enclose a stamp.

WANTED, "A PALPABLE HIT."

In the far-off days, amongst my modes of entertaining I was a ventriloquist, and the annexed story will prove what a success I was!!! Cheers! I went with a party to give a performance for a member of Parliament, who was providing a big fête for his constituents. We had a stage erected in extensive grounds, and several hundreds of voters, and others who had crept in, were seated on the sward. I was having the usual cross-talk with my boy figure, who was, of course, scoring off me all the time. A yokel was intent upon it all, and gradually made his way up until he got to the front row. Then he called out at the top of his voice: "Give 'im a clout int' ear'ole, guv'nor."

JUST A LITTLE SQUEEZE.

An alfresco party opened at a seaside, and I was one of the artistes. Two years after I returned, not only as a comedian, but also as manager. I was standing by the turnstile before an afternoon performance, talking to the check-taker, when a lady came up with three of her children hiding behind her. I only remembered her slightly, but she was most effusive. "Oh, Mr. Foster, we did miss you so much last year; now it's quite like old times." Then lowering her voice, "Get under, Gladys," and one of the children got under the stile. "Yes, I think you'll have a splendid season, and you're looking so well, Mr. Foster"—and a second child followed the first. When they were all safely on the right side she offered the money for herself alone. I said, "Your children don't seem to have grown much. They've all squeezed through the stile."

STAR MUSIC CO.'S SONGS.

Miss Mary Wynne Hulm, who is playing Fairy Queen this year in pantomime for Mr. Charles Gulliver, on the L.T.V. Circuit, is making a special feature of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's superb ballad, "Show me the way to your heart," which she has already sung with very great success at the Holborn Empire and other leading theatres of variety.

The Star Music Co. is exceedingly well represented in Mr. F. W. Wyndham's "Babes" pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow. Miss Winifred Roma made the vocal success of the production with "Show me the way to your heart," while the dainty Babes, Miss Tiny Passon and Little Myra Rosalind, were scarcely less successful with "You were the first one to teach me to love." Other big Star hits were the Tiller Girls' "Sergeant Macadoo," "What you've never had you never miss," and "They all did the goose step home."

Mr. Rich. Waldon's "Tom the Piper" at the Princess's, Glasgow, boasts no less than five sterling Star successes, all specially featured. The dashing principal boy, Miss Lily Vine, sings two, viz., "You were the first one to teach me to love" and "We must all fall in," the Sisters Jerome sing "That dreamy lullaby" and "Everybody's crazy on the fox trot," and the principal girl, Miss Winnie Goodwin, sings "What you've never had you never miss," all being acclaimed to the echo.

Miss Nelly Boden, principal boy in Mr. Harry Burns's "Jack and Jill," which is at the Hippodrome, Greenock, this week, is making enormous hits with "Show me the way to your heart" and "Follow the sergeant," while Miss Retta Halkett, principal girl in the same pantomime, is equally successful with "Sergeant Macadoo" and "When Sandy McKie comes back to Inverary."

Mr. Harry McKelvie's pantomime, "Tommy Tucker," is at the Shepherd's Bush Empire this week, where Miss Mabel Costello is repeating her Glasgow success with the two fine Star songs, "Show me the way to your heart" and "When Sandy McKie comes back to Inverary." Dainty Doris, the principal girl, is very charming in "You were the first one to teach me to love," while Misses Ethel and Bella Brookland are perfect in their rendering of "What you've never had you never miss."

A most delightful rendering of the Star Co.'s ballad, "Show me the way to your heart," is that offered by the Kuba Quartette, which, at the Balham Hippodrome last week, charmed all hearers with their vocal and instrumental treatment of this number. The flute and 'cello obbligato was exceptionally fine.

An English industry which seems to be successfully taking the place of the German manufacture is grease paint. We understand that Thomas' grease paints and preparations are meeting with universal approval, and many letters from prominent artistes, such as Miss Blaline Terrise, have been received expressing entire satisfaction.

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The Winter Gardens, New Brighton, will play twice nightly for one month only from Dec. 27.

After a successful autumn season the New Theatre Royal, Windsor, closed on Saturday, Dec. 11, for two weeks, and will re-open on Boxing Day with the pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

The Stockton-on-Tees magistrates, on the application of Mr. Stanley Inglis, solicitor, are permitting the Grand Theatre, and the Hippodrome to give their regular dramatic and variety performances on Christmas Day for the first time in the history of the ancient borough. Hitherto, such applications have been refused.

Mr. T. H. Middleton, of the Palace, Dundee, has been promoted by Mr. A. D. Macfarlane to the more responsible post of manager at the Glasgow Lyric.

Miss Jessie Ewart is playing the leading part—the French costumière—in the revue "Parlez-vous Français?"

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Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

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THE HONEYMOON EXPRESS.
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Royal Hippodrome,
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To Messrs. A. G. SPRY AND B. S. MONTI. Dec. 18th, 1915.

Dear SPRY AND MONTI,

Allow me to congratulate you on your Revue "Spots." I don't think I am wrong if I say you have a winner. There is just enough plot to enable the public to follow every situation.

The comedy in the show is excellent without introducing anything suggestive, and you have a splendid lot of voices. The scenery, dresses, and in fact everything appertaining to the Revue is put on in an excellent manner.

Wishing you every success.

Yours sincerely,
H. RAYMOND (General Manager).

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Mrs. Tom Shaw and Mr. Richard Carr wish Clients and Friends a Bright and Happy Christmas and Health and Prosperity throughout the New Year.

NOTTINGHAM.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. A. H. Williams; Asst. M., Mr. J. Winfield; Mus. D., Mr. J. Firth.—Harry Day's new revue, "Keep to the Right," is a capital medley of good music, fun, and frolic, in which that excellent comedian, Jimmy Learmouth, takes a hand with the happiest results. He is surrounded by a happy band of workers, including Lily Moore, Minnie Leslie, Ruby Ralland, Florence Williams, Edw. Pollard, Leonard Harris, Leonard Maxwell, Will Williams, and D'Amato's Neapolitan Singers. The variety part is sustained by Molly Wells, a sprightly and pleasing comedienne, assisted by Frank Mayban at the piano; Alphonse Silvano, in clever balancing feats; and Harry Herbert, comedian.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. Harry Lyons; Asst. M., Mr. Stanhope Butler; Mus. D., Mr. Charles Wright.—"Town Topics" makes an attractive and lively revue, well staged and dressed, and smartly played by a strong cast, including: Nell Calvert, Lulu Lusanne, Matt. Morley, Jean Wallace, Frank Reece, Matt. Leamore, Albert Ponder, Barrett and Knowles, Sanford and Lyons, the Four Sunshines, and Arthur Reece, a comedian highly appreciated here. The bill is further enlivened by Ryder Stone, whose character vocalism evokes hearty laughter; Grey and Richards, presenting an interesting musical act; and Josie Henry, comedienne.

Boots, The Chemists, 22, Goose-gate, Trent Bridge; 48, Arkwright-street; 177-79, Alfreton-road; 126-8, Derby-road; 88, St. Ann's Well-road; High-street and Pelham-street, Exchange-walk; 21, London-road; 181, Mansfield-road; 10, Listergate; 1, Angel-road, Market-place; 1, Mansfield-road (corner Shakespeare-street); 269, St. Ann's Well-road, Carrington-street Bridge; 66, Wilford-road.

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VARIETY CARDS.

These cards are inserted at 36/- for thirteen issues (small space) of "The Era."

IMPORTANT TO ARTISTES.

Additions and Corrections to these Cards must reach us not later than Tuesday, 4 p.m.

THE MUSICAL
ELLIOTT SAVONAS
In "THE PALACE OF ORPHEUS."
This Week, HIPPODROME, BRISTOL. Next, THE LONDON COLISEUM.
All coms., The Palladium, Dennistoun, Glasgow.

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DAISY SQUELCH
And her BIG BRASS SIX, Starring in "THE DREAM GIRL."
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VICTORIA & RAMOO
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A Big Success Everywhere. Refer.
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MACK JOLLYBOY
Principal Comedian in PERCY HONRI'S **1915** Revue.
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All communications to FRANCIS, Juggler.

THE THREE ERNESTS
In their latest Novelty, "SPRING GARDENS." Nulli secundus.
A few Vacant Dates.
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PIANO and SONGS.
This Week, THE METROPOLITAN. Next, ALHAMBRA, BRADFORD.
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HILDA GLYDER
Starring in "LE PETIT CABARET."
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"GOOD EVENING!"
Next Week - - - PALACE, HULL.

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VACANT—MONDAY NEXT.

Wishes all Friends
A MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

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COLOURED ECCENTRICS Still playing their two shows,
"DON'T YOU PUSH ME NO MORE," and a new show, "MY FRIEND."
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ON TOUR.

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"GET AWAY, YOU BOYS!"
This Week, WOOLWICH. Next, LEITH.

HAROLD WELLESLEY ‖ ORLANDO MARTIN
THOSE TWO COMEDIANS
in Fred Kitchen's Revue,
"ALL NONSENSE."
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THE MELODY MAKER.
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in an Original Musical Melange,
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"HAVE A GUESS!" Revue.
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Pub. by Francis and Day.
PHIL BRANSBY
This Week, THE MIDDLESEX Next QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

TATTEN HALL
in his latest Comedy Creation, "FANCIFUL WHIMS,"
including Miss DONNA HAYDON.
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JACK JUDGE
In New Songs,
"EVERYBODY'S PROUD OF THEIR OWN,"
"I'LL GO WITH YOU TO ENGLAND."
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"EVER BEEN HAD?" Revue
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In Song and Dance on One Wheel.
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THE MAIDS OF THE MOMENT
— IN JUST A SIMPLE ACT. —
ON TOUR.

JENNIE HARTLEY
Starring Leading Lady "LOVE BIRDS" Revue.
This Week EMPIRE, BELFAST. Next, EMPIRE, PRESTON.

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Finished 8 months with "MIND THE STEP!"
Rehearsing Panto.
Open Dec. 27. HIPPODROME, DERBY.

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Principal Comedian in "SEARCH ME!"
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REAL VARIETY ARTISTES.
SOUTH AMERICAN TOUR.

GUEST (ALFRED) & NEWLYN (VICTORIA)
"THE TRIFLERS."
Next Week, HIPPODROME, SHEFFIELD.

VARIETY NOTES.

Miss Dora Lyric,
who has just finished a Moss Tour, and is appearing in London, opens Monday, Dec. 27, at Chelsea. This artiste is fully booked into 1918, including Moss' Empires, Syndicate, Macnaghten, and Gulliver's Circuit. She is singing a very great song, entitled "There is no place like home," which is an exceedingly catchy chorus number.

Mr. Harry Dent,
the popular comedian of "hy and Fy Dent," is appearing in Walter Bentley's revue, "Odds On," the great and successful revue. This comedian will no doubt show his abilities well whilst he is at the Oxford, where the revue is appearing for three weeks commencing Dec. 27. He is well known, not only in the music halls, but also in pantomime, where he has played as principal comedian for all the best proprietors, including Howard Wyndham, Geo. Edward, John Hart, and Robert Arthur; also in musical comedy in "The Dairy Maids" as principal comedian, and with Geo. Dance's "The Burglar's Ball." There is no doubt this comedian is a big favourite in the West-End.

Mr. Bay Russell,
juvenile lead in Mr. Walter Bentley's revue, "Odds On," will be appearing at the Oxford for three weeks commencing Dec. 27, where his songs will, without doubt, be greatly appreciated. This gentleman has a style of his own which appeals to the public, and has also had great experience in musical comedy also, not only as an artiste, but as a proprietor in connection with the well-known comedy, "The Girl in the Train.

Sam Mayo.
Marie Lloyd, who opens Boxing night at the Oxford, will introduce some new songs from the pen of Sam Mayo. Successes written and composed by Sam are being sung by Hetty King, Florrie Forde, and Arthur Lennard. On Boxing night he puts on a new comic number, written in collaboration with Bert Lee and R. P. Weston. Once, when at the races, Sam backed a first and won £18. His brother-in-law, who was with him, asked for a loan of £3, but on Sam putting his hand in his pocket he found all his money had disappeared, except £1. When he arrived at the Olympia, Shoreditch, the same evening, there was a note to this effect: "Dear Sam,—Sorry we took the money, but we were all broke. We left you a £1 to get back with, and you will go 'extra special' to-night."

Marie Lloyd
made her first aeroplane trip last Sunday, and was quite calm after her experience, although the aero. nearly flew on to a house. Marie is a great favourite with the Tommies, and her services are always at the disposal of those organising entertainments for the convalescent and wounded heroes.

Arthur Lennard
has just put on a couple of new songs, entitled, "Bad as you are, I love you," written and composed by Goldburn, and "It really is a splendid situation," written by himself, and composed by Sam Mayo. He is singing both numbers this week at the Islington Empire, and receiving much hearty applause.

Ernie Lotinga and Hetty King
open at the Queen's Theatre on Boxing night, in "Oh! La-La!" Ernie taking the part of principal comedian, and Miss King playing boy and girl parts.

"Don't Crush," Revue,
is playing the Grand, Birmingham, this week. This is the second time in eight weeks that "Don't Crush" has appeared in the Midland city, where it has been played five times since its production.

Will Evans and Stanley Lupino.
Will made the Xmas pudding, and succeeded in easily winning the £1 bet made with Miss Florence Smithson. Stanley saw fair play, and when Miss Smithson gave Will two half-sovereigns, Will added a couple more, and threw the four into the pudding.

Harry Ray
has severed his connection as principal comedian with "'S'Nice" revue. Harry, who has been starring in a long and successful run, is a clever revue principal, and will, no doubt, be quickly snapped up by some enterprising proprietor.

Alf. Sherville,
the stage manager of the Islington Empire, will go round the Gulliver halls for several weeks with Gulliver's pantomime, "Goody Two Shoes" in the capacity of scenery overseer.

The Magleys.
Guy Magley resumed his dancing act at East Ham on Monday after a most successful time at the Alhambra. The Magleys are without question two of the finest American society entertainers that Uncle Sam has yet sent us.

Four Swifts
are back again in town after enjoying several weeks of provincial success. The Four Boys are prime favourites at Victoria Palace this week, where they introduce some very funny comedy into their scientific club-juggling. Swift by name and swift by nature, these clever comedy club manipulators have a highly entertaining show.

May Carter,
the principal lady in Kitchen's revue, "All Nonsense," has made quite a hit with her artistic dancing and singing. Possessed of a charming personality, the dainty little artiste, at the Surrey last week, rendered "Looking for a man" and "Ribbons and Lace," the latter a song and dance, which quickly captured the hearts of the audience. Her speciality solo dance was also greatly admired. May also gave a waltz number with Leonard Trend, and here again she scored.

Will Hay,
the scholastic comedian, after an absence of four months, is to be seen this week at the New Cross Empire. Will, of "Bend Down" fame, is responsible for a most diverting turn.

Georgina Berry
was so successful at Collins's a fortnight ago that she has been given the L.T.V. Tour.

Harold Wellesley and Orlando Martin,
the two principals in Fred Kitchen's new revue, "All Nonsense," made a big hit in the station scene at the Surrey last week. Harold is the only porter left in the station, when Orlando, a millionaire, arrives on his way to Naples, but can find no one to attend to his luggage. Harold, however, acts as the good Samaritan, and between the two everything goes wrong, and so the train is

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Entirely Written, Composed, and Produced by H. D. Sole Agent, W. BENTLEY.

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"PARLEZ VOUS FRANCAIS?"
This Week, FINSBURY PARK.

Miss ROSIE REYS
The Phenomenal Irish Contralto.
VACANT for FIRST-CLASS REVUE. ONLY VACANCY this Year DEC. 27.
This Week, QUEEN'S, SOUTH SHIELDS.

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IN IDEALS. HIGH AND LOFTY.
Pantomime,
THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.

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MADGE, the Miniature PAVLOVA,
MARIE, the Brilliant Young PIANISTE.
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Next Week, HIPPODROME, ALDERSHOT.
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GUY VIVIAN
As HORACE in "DON'T TEMPT ME!"
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"THE MILLION DOLLAR GIRL."
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"THE MILLION DOLLAR GIRL."
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A SUCCESS
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JACK & EVELYN
This Week, BRISTOL.
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LOIS BARKER & PERCY TARLING
In their Original Act,
"THE GRUMBLERS."
ON TOUR.

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THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN TENOR.
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PLAYHOUSE Revue, "SAMPLES."
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lost. Orlando then recognises Wellesley as an old enemy, but the couple finish up the best of friends with a little luncheon at Martin's expense.

Frank Powell,
in "Some Glee," is still going strong, and is fully booked up till the end of May. The schoolroom scene is still a big success. Thanks to Mr. D. J. Clarke, of "Argyllo," Mr. Powell has been able to play the Hippodrome, Birkenhead, this week, where "What do 'e say" has become quite a catch-phrase.

Geo. Young,
of Young and Smart, the Binks in "Merry Miss Maddap," will shortly be working single-handed in another revue. The title will be announced later.

Paul Witt and Teddie Butt,
with songs and a piano, are one of the hits of the programme at the Metropolitan. Both artistes are deservingly applauded, Witt for his wonderful piano playing, and Teddie for his delightful singing.

Burr and Hope
are doing exceedingly well at the Victoria Palace this week with three new songs. The first, a ballad composed by Lawrence Wright, "Come to my garden enchanted," bids fair to eclipse his other popular number, "Blue eyes." The other two, "We'll have a dinky little flat in town," and "What will you do to prove your love is true?" by Laurie, in collaboration with Bert Lee, are also very popular.

Jake Friedman,
the popular Anglo-Dutch comedian, is playing the Middlesex to enormous business. Jake is disposing of picture postcards of himself at the halls he works, the entire proceeds going to swell the funds of Mr. Stoll's war seal scheme. Business in this direction is good.

Phil Bransby's
latest success, "I musn't treat the missus," was taken up by the audience in a most decided manner at the Middlesex on Monday. The number has been secured for publication by Francis and Day.

Amongst Walter Bentley's many activities, he is producing a revue, "All Stop Here," which, we are informed, "will be far ahead of any of its kind." Mr. Bentley has not yet completed the cast for his revue, but is looking around for attractive and capable artistes. The production is already booked for some well-known circuits.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.

Many new and welcome features were introduced for the first time on Monday evening at the New Middlesex into "The Dutch Hussars," and it is not too much to say that in their renovated uniforms the celebrated corps will for long continue to amuse English audiences. Unlike the traditional fault of their race, the fault of these Dutch is not in giving too little and asking too much. The performance provides an abundance of humour, in which Mr. Jake Friedman, a gifted comedian, naturally figures prominently. The production is well staged, and provides a plethora of singing and dancing in which a company of some 30 artistes enthusiastically participate. It opens with a ranching scene, which affords an opportunity for the introduction of a number of cowboy costumes, the whole spectacle being very effective.

Jake Friedman has several good songs, one of his best efforts in this direction being "It's nice to be a soldier," a ballad particularly apt in these stirring times. Miss Florence Hunton, who, in the course of the performance, assumes a dual personality, is also much to the fore in the vocal sense, and it must be said that the singing generally is a particularly agreeable feature of "the revue with a thousand laughs." Whether the frequent outbursts of merriment on Monday evening reached this number or not we cannot say, but the echoes of one peal of laughter had hardly subsided before the audience were again convulsed by the antics of Jake Friedman and his associates.

Miss Cissie Lupino, who is also appearing at the Middlesex this week, has brought the terpsichorean art to perfection, and was very deservedly encored for her work on Monday evening. A song incidental to the new treating orders, given by Mr. Phil Bransby, appealed strikingly to the sentiments of the house, while his appearance in corduroy trousers, combined with immaculate evening dress, must be seen to be appreciated at its full mirth-provoking value. The Ryewodes Trio, in a vocal and instrumental scena, "Music Awakes," is another attraction in the current programme. These artistes are all of tender years, and for musicians of so youthful appearance play and sing with remarkable ability.

After a six months' rest Miss Juanita Charlton is resuming the part of Eliza in "Eliza Comes to Stay" on tour.

OLD TOPICAL SONGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—My old schoolfellow, the late Mr. Charles Williams, who, some forty years ago, was a topical vocalist at our "halls," used to sing, as you may perhaps remember,—

"The Union Jack of Old England,"

and another,

"It's a wonder how we jog along at all."

Can you advise me where I may try to get them; or, if I send you P.O.O., will you get them? I have so far, in my own little way, failed. If you can help me I shall esteem it a great personal favour. Do you think any of your readers can help me?—Yours sincerely, WALTER SMITH.

34, Solon-road, Brixton, S.W. Dec. 19.

Dan A. Meely, of Meely and Laing, was attested under Lord Derby's scheme at Sunderland on Dec. 9, and is in Group 42, but has not been medically examined. Meely and Laing will continue to play their act until Mr. Meely is called up, and if successful in passing doctor, Miss Laing will play as a single turn. This is Mr. Meely's third attempt to enlist. If passed, he will join a Highland regiment, being a Highlander, born at North Bay, in the Island of Barra, in the Outer Hebrides.

Just to remind you!

THERE'S A LONG, LONG TRAIL
is OUR ballad.

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"STOP YOUR NONSENSE!"

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Principal Comedian London Production
"BUSINESS AS USUAL."
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ENORMOUS SUCCESS OF LONDON SEASON.

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The World's Famous Lady Club Jugglers.
ON TOUR.

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Principal Comedian "MUSTARD AND CRESS."
Dec. 20, COLISEUM, PORTSMOUTH.

O'GORMAN BROS.
WHO SING, TALK, AND DANCE.
This Week - - - - - - - EDINBURGH.
Agent, GEO. BARCLAY.

FOUR SWIFTS
THE CLUB JUGGLING MANIACS.
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CHARLIE EMERALD
Principal Comedian in "STEP FORWARD" (Some Hit).
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The World's Greatest Juvenile Artiste in Song, Dance, and Impersonations.
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Starring in ERNEST C. ROLLS' latest Revue, "GOOD EVENING!"
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BURLESQUE SONGS Required. Best price given for right material.
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Engaged Principal Boy Royal Princess', Glasgow.
Thanks Revue and Panto. Managers for other offers.
Business Manager, S. GOODWIN LYON. Address as above.

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Panto., THEATRE ROYAL, MANCHESTER.
Produce Thursday, December 23.

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He of the Swan-like Neck, in a Hurricane of Humour.
DAME - - WIMBLEDON THEATRE.
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Enormous Success, Principal Comedian, "HIGH 'XPLOSIVES."
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JUST A COMEDIAN.
Panto., PAGE, "CINDERELLA," NEW THEATRE, CARDIFF.

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Versatile Entertainer. Edelsten and Burns' "Jack and Jill."
HIPPODROME, GREENOCK. Principal Boy.
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SOME DUDE. "NO WAITING" Revue.
ON TOUR.
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REX ROMAINE & DORIS DAINTON
IN A DELIGHTFUL POT POURRI OF
VIOLIN, PIANO, SONG, AND MIRTH.
On Tour.

WOOLMER YOUNG
PRINCIPAL LIGHT COMEDY PART.
"LOVE BIRDS" Revue.
This Week - - - EMPIRE, BELFAST.

HARRY CURWEN
Principal Comedian.
Author-Producer.

IRELAND CUTTER
Starring
RANDY ROUNDER.

"THEY'RE OFF!"

JACK RAWSON
of THE RAWSONS (Maggie and Jack) wishes all Professional Friends A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR and will appear in an entirely new and original Act at the end of the War. At present fulfilling an important engagement at the Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield.

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Mezzo Soprano (Fairy Queen),
Miss Florrie Forde's Panto. "JACK AND JILL"
This Week, PALACE, BLACKPOOL. Next, HIPPODROME, LEEDS.

ROUSBY & RENÉ
A Real Comedy Success in "SMILE, PLEASE!"
(Refer Management.)
This Week, TIVOLI, NEW BRIGHTON. Next, GRAND, MANCHESTER.

LILLIAN AVRIL
And her SEVEN LITTLE JUNES, in New and Original Scena, entitled
"CHRISTMAS EVE." Miss DOROTHY MARS as THE CAT.
All communications to WILL OLIVER, or direct, 15, Victoria Villas, Kilburn, N.W.
THE 4 MAIS, Vocalists and Dancers. VACANT for Revue.

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THE BRITISH GIRL in "THEY'RE OFF!"
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All coms., Framlingham Lodge, Libertus Road, Cheltenham.

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The Original Musical Act.
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THE SMART SCOT.
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ON TOUR.

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This Week, T.R., GUILDFORD. Next, REVUE THEATRE, KINGSTON.

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A most Beautiful Feature for any Bill.—The Famous Dancer
MAUDE MAY MURRAY
In her Magnificent Electrical Dance Act, "The Enchantress of the Silver Cave"—a blaze of revolving light—concluding with her great Aerial and Patriotic Dance, "Men of To-Day."
Thanks Managers and Agents for offers, Pantomime and Revue.
Specially engaged by R. Nightingale, Esq., to open in "ALADDIN," Dec. 27th, accident permitting.
Thanks B. Sherek, Esq., for offer Hippodrome, Putney—sorry I could not accept.
Thanks Sidney Arthur for full MacNaghten tour.
First vacancies March 13, April 3, 24, May 8, 15.
Address this and next week, T.R., ST. HELENS.

LESLIE DUNCAN
Starring as CLARENCE CHOLMONDELEY
in "FRILLS AND FANCIES" Revue.
ENORMOUS SUCCESS.
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TERRY SULLIVAN
AUTHOR-COMPOSER.
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P.A., 16, AVARN ROAD, MITCHAM ROAD, S.W.

"SIMPSON'S STORES."

This humorous little piece, produced at the Coliseum on Monday, will be another excellent medium for the whimsical melancholia of Alfred Lester, who, unfortunately, was suffering at the first performance from throat trouble, and was thus unable to do himself justice. Simpson has acquired the capital for his grocery business by winning a prize in a limerick competition, but his soul is not in sugar or tea. He would be a playwright, and conceives the brilliant idea of a drama that will advertise his own goods and proclaim their superiority over those of his rival, Dobson.

The fortuitous arrival of an actress, who is playing at the fit-up theatre, provides the opportunity for Simpson to rehearse his play, during which 'Arris announces that the cat has fallen in the molasses tub and other misfortunes. Eventually the script of the play is appropriated by the dustman. The actress thinks that the loss is of little consequence, and Simpson comes to much the same conclusion. Mr. Lester is supported by Miss Buena Bent, who presents an attractive sketch of the actress, by Mr. D'Arcy Salter as 'Arris, and by Mr. John F. Preston.

A pronounced hit is made by Mr. Vivian Foster, whose curate is the funniest impersonation of the "cloth" since Penley appeared at the Rev. Robert Spalding. Some of Mr. Foster's gags are intensely laughable, and they have the quality of clean humour. Tom Clare's songs at the piano include an excellent burlesque of the American "song hit." De Busse, a fine accordion player, puts some humour into his clever performance, which includes "The lost chord" and rag-time; some breezy pantomime fun is exploited with excellent results by the Cyclery Buffoons; and Lockhart's Elephants, who have returned from war service, have lost none of their gentleness or intelligence or sense of humour. Miss Helen Moray, who sings "Caro nome," from "Rigoletto," is much applauded, and the Kavanaghs open the programme.

MUSIC RECEIVED.

"The fountain," song, words by Mrs. Arthur Barnard, music by Evelyn Sharpe, price 1s. 6d. net. "Powder and patch," gavotte, by Evelyn Sharpe, price 1s. 6d. net. "Love's secret, song, words by L. B., music by Marjorie Broughton, price 1s. 6d. net. "Mazurka Russe," by Claude Arundale, price 1s. 6d. "Five short humorous songs," words and music by Claude Arundale, price 3s. net. Ernest Newton's Tutor for the Pianoforte, price 2s. net. Ernest Newton's Five-finger Exercises, price 6d. net. All published by J. B. Cramer and Co., Ltd.

The following artistes sailed to-day to fulfil an engagement with the African Theatres Trust, Ltd.:—Wish Wynne, Belle Sylvia, Lea Lynn, Attila, Florence Lillian Trio, Little Joe Pacey, and Elaine Alfred.

Mr. Arthur Helmore and Mr. Nelson Keys were amongst those who entertained at the 3rd annual social of the "Charley's Aunt" Club at the London Opera House on Sunday evening last.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

The story of "Little Tommy Tucker" is not one that theatre-goers have had any opportunity of becoming satiated with as the basis of a pantomime, and therefore it has to a considerable extent the merit of novelty. Perhaps it would be more correct to say one might presume that it would have the merit of novelty, for we doubt very much whether anyone witnessing this quite excellent pantomime, which began what should be a successful career at the Shepherd's Bush Empire on Monday, could relate very much about little Tommy, either who he was or what happened to him.

However, the show is described as "revueistical," and probably those responsible would consider that sufficient defence against any charge of lack of plot. Not that it matters very much, anyway. So long as a pantomime is bright and cheerful, funny and melodious, shortcomings in the way of coherent action are of little account. And "Little Tommy Tucker" is certainly good entertainment from every point of view. It is well dressed and mounted, the music is excellent, the ladies are all attractive and talented, and the comedians really funny.

Miss Mabel Costello is the principal boy, and as regards appearance, voice, and demeanour she comes pretty well nigh one's ideal of what a principal boy should be. Among her numbers are "Sandy McKie," "Show me the way to your heart," and "We all did the goose-step home." The principal girl is Miss Dainty Doris, a very charming and delightfully girlish girl. Her chief songs are "You were the first one to teach me how to love" and "In my old Kentucky home." Another excellent boy and girl are found in the Misses Ethel and Bella Brookland, and they have a very pleasing number in "Before I met you." Miss Tina Bromlo and Mr. Reg. Bromlo as Lizzie Lindsay and John Willie are also conspicuously good, and their song, "You're a great big wonderful baby," is one of the most attractive in the show. The Dame is Mr. Fred Ingram, and the Baron Mr. Eddie Jaye, and both of these comedians work hard and successfully, and contribute much to the general success.

The bright particular star, however, is Mr. Jack Williams, a fine natural comedian, who appears in the rôle of Dr. Swanker. Mr. Williams is a tower of strength, resourceful and genuinely funny, and just in the right place in a pantomime. The chorus work is uncommonly good, and the whole show, indeed, is, as the saying goes, "top-hole."

The Three Arts Women's Employment Fund appeals to all who have at any time derived pleasure from the Three Arts to help to keep the rank and file of those professions from misery and want by sending a donation to the Hon. Treasurer, 26, Somerset-street, W. The control committee of the fund, of which Miss May Whitty is chairman, consists of Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Elizabeth Asquith, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Clara Butt, Miss Olga Nethersole, and Miss Marie Lohr.

DEATH OF MRS. E. H. BROOKE.

Half a century on the stage was the proud record of Mrs. E. H. Brooke, whose death on Sunday night, at the age of eighty-one, we regret to announce. For the past few years Mrs. Brooke had lived in well-deserved retirement.

Mrs. Brooke made her first appearance on the stage at the old Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, as Miss Minnie Davis, under the management of the late Mrs. Wyndham, and subsequently, at the same theatre, was associated for a long time with Sir Henry Irving and Mr. J. L. Toole. She appeared in London with Charles Mathews, Fechter, and Charles Kean.

Mrs. Brooke was well known at the Haymarket Theatre under the Harrison-Maude and Beerbohm Tree managements, and subsequently also played with Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. James Welch, the late Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, the late Mr. E. S. Willard, Miss Julia Marlowe, Mr. E. H. Sothern (with whose father she had acted), the late Mr. Charles Frohman, and Mr. Otho Stuart.

In recent years Mrs. Brooke had played at His Majesty's in "Business is Business," "Colonel Newcome," and "Trilby." Her final appearances, some five years ago, were as Mrs. Leddra in "The Dancing Girl" at His Majesty's, as the nurse in "Romeo and Juliet" at the Court Theatre, and as Mrs. Worgan in "What the Public Wants" at the Aldwych.

Her husband, an actor of some distinction, died in 1884. The funeral will take place to-day at Brompton Cemetery, at 10.30.

ONCE MORE GIVE ME YOUR SMILE

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—THUMBS DOWN!
JEANETTE DENARBER'S GREAT SUCCESS.—SOME CHORUS HIT.

MARCH ON TO BERLIN.
A RIOT IN MARCH-TIME. CHORUS NUMBERS.

NURSE CAVELL MEMORIAL SONG
ALL FOR HER COUNTRY'S SAKE

SUNG BY—EVERYBODY OF NOTE!
Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh!
THE BUMPER CHORUS HIT OF THE SEASON.

IF I WERE KING
SPECIALLY FEATURED BY
H. M. WELLMON, of Carlisle & Wellmon.

SILBERMAN & GROCK

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Secretary & Manager — MASON DIXON.

A POETIC CONTRAST.

We cull the following pair of poems from "Contingent Ditties and other Soldier Songs of the Great War." By Frank S. Brown, Sergeant, P.P.C.L.I. (The Pats). Edited by Holbrook Jackson, and published by Sampson Low, Marston and Co., Ltd., London.

"OPENED BY THE CENSOR.
"THE FIRST.
"Miss Mary Angelina Craven-Hall,
"Park-avenue,
"The Annex,
"Montreal.

"My Darling,—
'Neath a fickle tallow light
A message of our love would I indite;
The message of a starved and aching heart,
Sick of the conflict; sick of slaughter's mart.
It is to thee I turn. In spirit haste
To help me bear this desolated waste.
Thou art my constant comrade, and I feel
Thy presence o'er my wearied senses steal.
I lit my comfort-pipe, and in the smoke
Behold! I saw thy face. To me it spoke
Of Love and Home, and all that goes to make
Life's even way the rose's colour take.
Oh! would that I might hold thee to my breast,
Or, safe beneath thy care, sink into rest;
Or feel thy crushing lips in love's caress
Waft out the soldier's cares to nothingness.
Oh! but again to see the gloried sun
Caught in thy tresses of the gold beams spun;
Oh! once again to take thy trasting hand
And lead you thro' a fairy castled land.
Forget not, in the city's monotone,
The chant of faith to thee I sing alone.
And ne'er forget the sacred word that binds
Our pulsing hearts, our intellects and minds.
May God in Heaven guard our treasure-trove.
Remember I am always thine.

"With Love."

THE SECOND.
"To Mrs. Hiram Billican,
"Near Beulah,
"Minnedosa, Man.

"Dear Jane,—
I feel I cannot sleep;
In slush and mud four miles deep,
I'll snatch a little time to write
A line or so to you to-night.
I hope the kids aren't fallen sick,
And if they're bad just use the stick.
I showed you how to make them mind—
But then you never were my kind.
In handling kids you take the cake!
I'm glad you're teaching May to bake.
I'm sending you a pound or two,
And with it here's what you must do:—
Lay in a stock of coal and wood,
And kindlery, and a pile of food.
Don't spend the rest, but take good care
To get the kids warm underwear.
About that darned old brindled cow:
If she is milking up to now,
Don't sell her until by-and-by;
Get rid of her when she goes dry.
Tell John he's got to be a man,
And feed the pigs on swill and bran;
And see he cleans the dirty pens,
Collects the eggs, and feeds the hens.
Be sure he doesn't start to smoke,
Or he'll be sick enough to croak.
If Harry's acting up the fool,
You'd better send him back to school.
Just keep an eye on Susie's lung,
And mind that Casey woman's tongue.
Don't fret or worry over me,
I am as right as I could be.
Now mind, I like to hear from home—
And say! please send a fine-toothed comb.
I guess I'll have to say ta-ta.
Kiss precious baby for his pa.
I hope he grows up good and strong
To be a soldier boy.
So long.
P.S.—You ought to see the grub
They hand to us.

"Your loving Hub."

Miss May Beatty (Mrs. Edward Lauri) has been engaged by the management of the George Edwardes companies to play an important comic character in "The Miller's Daughter," to be produced at the Prince's, Manchester, on Christmas Eve. So skilful and truly humorous an actress is sure to prove of great value to the cast—strong as it is.

WILL PFOUNDS

Hearty Greetings to all Friends.

AMUSEMENTS IN JOHANNESBURG.

(All communications for this column should be addressed to Mr. THEO. J. HOLZBERG, Box 1,648, Johannesburg, S.A.)

JOHANNESBURG.—HIS MAJESTY'S.—(J. C. Williamson, S.A., Ltd.); M. D., Mr. Richard Stewart.—The J. C. Williamson Musical Comedy Company concluded a very successful season with "The Marriage Market," in which the principals, Miss Margaret Paton, Miss Betty Kendall, and Miss Hilda Guiver, and Messrs. W. T. Andrews, Theo. Leonard, and Wm. Greene distinguished themselves. The company will visit Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Cape Town, and Dunbar, and will return, augmented, with a pantomime at Christmas.

The Royal Male Welsh Choir are paying a return visit to Johannesburg, and will appear at His Majesty's. The tour is under the direction of Messrs. De Jong and Holder Nesse.

STANDARD.—(Leonard Rayne).—Messrs. De Jong and Holder Nesse present Dr. Walford Bodie and all star company. Business has been excellent.

PALLADIUM.—(African Theatres Trust, Ltd.); M., Mr. Gilbert Fletcher.—The London Dramatic Company, including Messrs. Stephen Scanlan, Dan J. Roe, Denis Hogan, Dick Cruickshanks, and Mesdames Gwendoline Hay, Alma Vaughan, Cecile de Banke, and Molly Malin have just put on an excellent production of "The Gay Lord Quex." Mr. Stephen Scanlan plays Quex magnificently; Sir Chichester Frayne is in the capable hands of Mr. Dick Cruickshanks; Denis Hogan makes a presentable Captain Basing, and Miss Gwendoline Hay reaches great heights in her interpretation of Sophie Fullgarney. Miss Alma Vaughan plays Mrs. Jack Eden sympathetically, Muriel is sweetly acted by Miss de Barke, and Miss Molly Malim was good as the Duchess of Strood.

EMPIRE.—(African Theatres Trust, Ltd.).—M., Mr. R. B. Young.—Next week the revue "Step this Way!" will be produced on a lavish scale with an excellent cast of principals.

Mr. Harold Ashton, late resident director of J. C. Williamson, S.A., Ltd., leaves Johannesburg to-night for Australia, where he takes his seat upon the Australian board. Johannesburg wishes him good luck.

AMUSEMENTS IN CAPE TOWN.

(All communications for this article should be addressed to Mr. JOHN HARDWICK, 60, Queen Victoria-street, Cape Town.)

Nov. 19.—PLAYHOUSE.—Sole M., Mr. Estcourt Marsh.—This snug little theatre, opened by Mr. Marsh a few weeks ago, is meeting with well-deserved success. Mr. Marsh, who has a first-class company, opened with "Ann," and this was followed by "The New Boy," in which piece Mr. Marsh played the part of Archibald Rennick admirably. The theatre was crowded nightly when "Liberty Hall" was played, and since then "Jane," "A Delicate Business," "Joan of Arc" (modern), "The Man in the Street," and various other well-known pieces have been produced. This week "Facing the Music" is the attraction, to be followed by "Sweet Lavender." The company supporting Mr. Marsh includes Miss Armorel Kemp, who was with J. C. Williamson for some time; Miss Margaret van Halsteyn, late of W. J. Holloway's company; Mr. Fred Daniels, who was with the Follies; Mr. Dennis Eades, and Mr. Jack Bertrand. Mr. Estcourt Marsh is sole manager and producer.

At the Palace, Neath, on Wednesday night, Mr. E. Gillie, the manager, presented Mr. Charles Neilson, the stage manager, with a wristlet watch and a purse of money, subscribed by the entire staff, upon his leaving to join the Engineers.

THE ELEVENTH HOUR SONG HIT,
"BROWN BREAD"
(Well Buttered.)

Panto. or Revue Fee—ONE GUINEA.

TO PANTO. COMEDIANS AND OTHERS.—Many of you have witnessed or heard of the tremendous success Mr. Eddie Walker has made with this song. Artistes and Producers wishing to secure immediate Panto. or Revue Rights of this Proven Comedy Success,

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THE ANGELS OF MONS:
By EDWARD LOCKTON and A. KINGSTON STEWART.
This magnificent new song was featured by Miss HELEN BLAIN at the Alhambra, Sunday, December 19th, accompanied by the full Band of the Coldstream Guards, and scored an enormous success.

CHEER UP LITTLE SOLDIER-MAN:
By LESLIE COOKE and PERCY ELLIOTT.
Sung with the greatest success by Mr. EDWARD CROSLAND'S MELODY MAKERS. This week: Empire, Liverpool. Also many Pantomimes and Revues, including Lyceum, Brixton, Hammersmith, Nottingham, &c., &c. A fine marching song, with an irresistible refrain.

WHEN THE JOY BELLS RING:
By LEWIS BARNES.
This splendid new song, being sung by Miss MABEL MANSON at all principal engagements. Recently, while marching to the trenches drenched to the skin, the gallant Seaforth Highlanders sang "When the Joy Bells ring."

THE FOX TROT HOP:
By HAROLD SIMPSON and KINGSTON STEWART.
Sung last week at the Coliseum, with enormous success, by Miss MARGARET COOPER. This week, Birmingham, and at all engagements.

THE FIGHTING CHANCE:
By DOUGLAS FURBER and FRANK LAMBERT.
A truly magnificent song for Bass or Baritone.

EXTRA SPECIAL CONSTABLES:
(Duet.) By WEATHERLY and ERNEST NEWTON.
This duet simply pulls the house down every time it is sung. At present being featured by CHARLES SAUNDERS and JOSEPH FARRINGTON.

ROSES OF A SUMMER DAY:
By LESLIE COOKE and PERCY ELLIOTT.
A perfectly charming little ballad for Baritone and Mezzos.

LITTLE MOTHER:
By RICHARDSON and BUCHANAN.
The song with a human appeal, which never fails to obtain an encore.

O.P. CLUB DINNER MATINEE.

Admirers of "Mavourneen" gathered in force at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday to greet Miss Lily Elsie, who was to have presided at the "Dinner Matinée" organised with the object of inaugurating an O.P. Aid Fund for the relief of actors and actresses affected by the war. Disappointment, however, awaited the assembly, which numbered about 300, for Mr. Carl Hentschel, the president of the club, read a telegram from Miss Elsie stating that she had contracted a cold, and would be unable to attend. In her absence the chair would be taken by Lady Tree, who, Mr. Hentschel added, was the real leading lady of His Majesty's.

The toast of "Mavourneen" was proposed by Mr. G. B. Burgin, vice-president of the club, and acknowledged by Lady Tree, who said she had pretended to be a great many people in the course of a varied theatrical career, but she would defy anybody in the world, much less herself, to pretend to be Lily Elsie. The beautiful play of "Mavourneen" had had the double advantage of Mr. Parker's writing and of bringing back to the stage Lily Elsie, whom she admired almost more than anybody in the world. There was one cause which she had at heart, and that was that every woman present should adopt one prisoner of war in Germany, and send him a parcel regularly, or see that it was sent. It might cost about 10s. a week, and would necessitate the giving up of something, but it would mean a great deal of happiness. Such a movement might be organised at the American Embassy or the War Office.

Mr. Louis N. Parker, who proposed the toast of "The Dramatic Profession," said that the actors of military age who were not at the front should be pitied—they were detained at home by grievous misfortunes. No profession had sent more of its male members forth to fight for their country than the theatrical. Many had cheerfully interrupted brilliant careers and resigned princely incomes to go and serve wherever they could be of use, and some had yielded up their lives for their country. Though members of the profession were passing through difficult times, they always responded with alacrity when called upon to lend their art for the charitable purpose of helping others. In the glorious day of the final reckoning it would be found that the Army, Navy, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer were heavily in debt to actors and actresses. As far as he knew the O.P. Club was the only public body that had realised that while the dramatic profession included many in a position to help others, it included a vastly greater number who helped others without being in a position to do so. Newcomers in the dramatic profession, proceeded Mr. Parker, were seldom allowed to show what was in them until it had come out, and they were seldom allowed to make a name until they had one. They clamoured for young blood, and invariably swooned at the sight of it. It was thus all the more pleasurable to greet with hearty congratulations one of the newest stars risen amid the darkness of London's murky atmosphere—Miss Moya Mannering. Long might she twinkle, and long might she exemplify for us the best of good Manners. He coupled her name with the toast he had to propose, and asked them to give a grateful thought to those actors—and stage hands as well—who at that very moment were defending their homes.

Miss Moya Mannering, in acknowledgment, said she had come before them in her best clothes and her best Peg o' My Heartly Manners to thank them for their kindness to her, for all they had done for her brothers and sisters in the humbler ranks of the profession, and for what they would do in the future. Miss Elsie and herself were the present representatives of Irish drama in London. Miss Elsie was giving a perfectly delightful performance of an Irish colleen at His Majesty's, and she herself was permitted to show something with a touch of the brogue about it at another house.

Mr. Hentschel announced that the fund had started auspiciously, over £100 having been subscribed.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Dec. 20, the Play, entitled "THE DEVIL'S ROSARY."

The title of the play, which is this week being performed at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, is a figure of speech descriptive of the evil qualities that dominate the character of Adrienne de Berault, a Frenchwoman, who is a very bad example indeed of the female villain. Capt. Maurice de Berault exhibits equally villainous characteristics, and aids and abets his sinister sister in all her wicked doings. The first scene is laid in Egypt, and here it is that treachery on the part of the captain brings about trouble with the natives. Eugene Strong, an engineer in the employ of Sir Milton Royce, who is the owner of certain works in the district, suspects de Berault, and, foreseeing what does actually happen, advises Sir Milton and his wife, Christine, to get away as quickly as possible. But before they can act upon this advice an attack is made upon the Englishmen, and Sir Milton, struck on the head by a bullet, receives a shock which deprives him of his memory. An even greater calamity befalls his wife, for she is suddenly rendered sightless. The captain and his sister take advantage of these misfortunes, and induce Sir Milton to accompany them to Paris, where he goes through a marriage ceremony with Adrienne. In the meanwhile the blind Christine, who possesses a wonderful voice, is trained as a singer by a musician named Mikarti, and makes a remarkably successful public appearance. At Monte Carlo, where husband and wife meet for the first time after their enforced separation, Sir Milton fails to recognise Christine. Eugene Strong and Mamie Shott, an American girl, come into sharp conflict with the treacherous Adrienne and her brother, the lady's intention being to murder Sir Milton by means of poison. But her devilish scheme is frustrated by a cute old doctor, who has been called in to attend Sir Milton. Adrienne is turned out of the house, but, disguised as a nurse, gains readmission and makes another attempt upon the life of the man she claims as her husband. The captain fires a revolver shot at Sir Milton, and the shock brings back his memory, the story ending with the reunion of husband and wife, while the wicked Adrienne is marched off in the custody of a police constable.

The drama is well played by the members of Miss Henrietta Schrier and Mr. Lodge-Percy's company. Mr. Campbell Goldsmid is a fine, manly representative of Eugene Strong, and the part of Sir Milton Royce is admirably sustained by Mr. Roy Selfridge. Mr. Charles Clifford deserves every credit for his effective portrayal of Capt. Maurice de Berault, whose sister Adrienne is cleverly embodied by Miss Lilian Maitland; she misses no opportunities of scoring as a female villain of a particularly repellant type. Mr. Leonard Way deserves a word of praise for his telling representation of the musician, Mikarti; Miss Maud Camfield plays with earnestness and sincerity the rôle of the blind heroine, Christine; Mr. E. W. Bretton is excellent as the old doctor, Sir Matthew Neale; Miss Van Vurgh is a sufficiently vivacious exponent of the American girl, Mamie Shott; and able support is given by Mr. Hamilton Jordan and Mr. Sydney Bryant as her devoted admirers, Lieut. Christopher Wyng and Alphonse, a Frenchman, who assumes a title.

"A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM."

MR. F. R. BENSON'S SEASON AT THE COURT.

Theseus ..... Mr. F. R. Benson
Egeus ..... Mr. O. D. Roberts
Demetrius ..... Mr. Henry Baynton
Lysander ..... Mr. Basil Rathbone
Philostrate ..... Mr. Grosvenor North
Quince ..... Mr. B. A. Pittar
Snug ..... Mr. Stanley Howlett
Bottom ..... Mr. A. E. George
Flute ..... Mr. Compton Rickett
Snout ..... Mr. W. H. Quinton
Starveling ..... Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Hippolyta ..... Miss Dorothie Pidcock
Hermia ..... Miss Dorothy Green
Helena ..... Miss Florence Glossop-Harris
Oberon ..... Mr. Murray Kinnell
Titania ..... Miss Aline Henderson
Puck ..... Miss Leah Hanman
First Fairy ..... Miss Violet Cecil
First Singing Fairy ..... Miss May Kearsey
Second Singing Fairy ..... Miss Dorothy Hawkins
Peaseblossom ..... Miss Doris Beaton
Cobweb ..... Miss Peggy Carnac
Moth ..... Miss Muriel Stevens
Mustard Seed ..... Miss Felicie Vyner

It is always a great pleasure to welcome Mr. F. R. Benson back to London. One goes to his Shakespearean revivals with the pleasantest anticipations, knowing that the performance will display the highest intelligence and love of the great dramatist. Often as we have seen "A Midsummer-Night's Dream," and beautifully as it has been done, we do not remember a more satisfying representation than that seen at the Royal Court Theatre on Monday afternoon. The play is the thing with Mr. Benson, the scenery, the dresses, entirely adequate as they are, are always subservient to the words and the music, the exquisite faery music of Mendelssohn. The clowning, too, is delightful, fresh and spontaneous, rich in humour, the part of Bottom, admirably played by Mr. A. E. George, dominating but never overshadowing the others. Mr. Benson plays Theseus with fine dignity, and has an excellent Hippolyta in Miss Dorothie Pidcock. Miss Florence Glossop-Harris is a particularly good Helena. In appearance she is the ideal tall, fair Athenian, and she makes the character very feminine and appealing, so much so that one forgives Helena for her shocking lack of pride. The slight cattishness of the character is very skilfully suggested by Miss Glossop-Harris, and the sincerity of her love for Demetrius is unmistakable. Miss Dorothy Green as Hermia also puts in some good work, while Mr. Basil Rathbone is a handsome, gallant Lysander, and Mr. Henry Baynton very sound as Demetrius. Miss Leah Hanman makes an elfin, sportive Puck, though a little too feminine and not quite sufficiently malicious. Miss May Kearsey and Miss Dorothy Hawkins are most melodious as the two Singing Faeries. Miss Aline Henderson is a sweet, rdeamy Titania, and Mr. Murray Kinnell a stately though very serious Oberon. Capital work is done by Mr. B. A. Pittar as Quince, Mr. Stanley Howlett as Snug, Mr. Compton Rickett as Flute, Mr. W. H. Quinton as Snout, and Mr. H. O. Nicholson as Starveling. The faery revels are graceful and joyous. Altogether "A Midsummer-Night's Dream," as played by Mr. F. R. Benson's company at the Court, should be seen by every child and grown-up who wants a real treat during the holidays or after.

Miss Adele Levey will take 150 of our "Brave Lads" to the Haymarket Theatre matinée on Jan. 27.

Mr. Eric Gordon is still scoring heavily in the part of Harry (juvenile singing lead) in Miss Florence Baines' ever-successful musical farce, "Miss Lancashire, Ltd., and is featuring Messrs. Francis and Day's hits, "Good-bye, Boys" and "I followed her here."

Mr. Martin Harvey opens his spring tour on Jan. 10 at the Grand Theatre, Southampton. Meanwhile, his arrangements are maturing for the production, at the King's Theatre, Glasgow, of "Henry V.," which will be his contribution to the Shakespeare Tercentenary celebrations.

On Sunday last, at Boston, what might have proved a very serious accident happened to Miss Maude May Murray. While seeing her impedimenta into the train a heavy barrow of luggage upset, knocking her down. Had it not been for a man catching a heavy basket she would have been simply crushed. As it was she sustained a serious sprained ankle, and is now laid up at St. Helens. She hopes with a week's rest to be able to open with Mr. Richard Nightingale's pantomime on Monday next.

Numbers of well-known people have visited the Haymarket within the last few days to see that amusing comedy, "Who Is He?" Among those who have brought parties are:—The Princess of Monaco, the Duchess of Rutland, Lord Derby, the Countess of Drogheda, Lady Juliet Duff, the Hon. Mrs. Arthur Brodrick, and Mr. Justice Horridge. On Friday the Prime Minister, accompanied by Mrs. Asquith, Miss Elizabeth Asquith, and Mr. Anthony Asquith, visited the Haymarket Theatre, and among those present the same evening were the Duchess of Marlborough and Lord Montague of Beaulieu.

One of the finest shows for children this Xmas season will be the matinée given by Miss Lila Field's celebrated children at the Ambassador's Theatre, by arrangement with Mr. C. B. Cochran. These clever young people will be seen in Russian ballet, and in a new revue, which will be full of surprises and wonderful imitations of our well-known actors and actresses in their big successes. The first performance will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 28, and there will be a matinée also on Friday, Dec. 31; the following week the matinée will be on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday at 2.30.

Mr. A. B. Walkley, who reached his 60th birthday last Friday, was on that day "dined" by his fellow members of the Critics' Circle. All—or nearly all—the leading dramatic critics were present, and, of course, Mr. Walkley was most heartily congratulated. Mr. William Archer threw a little "comedy relief" into his speech by pooh-poohing most of the dramatists of the last century's early and late sixties, especially Henry J. Bryson, who certainly was one of the cleverest and brightest of the bunch.

Wearing a suit of armour in the character of St. George, Staff-Sergeant Norman Wrighton addressed a recruiting meeting on Friday at Sir Henry Irving's statue in Charing Cross-road. In the course of the meeting Sergt. Wrighton placed at the foot of the statue a wreath of laurel with roses intertwined, and bearing the inscription, "In loving remembrance from the members of the Dramatic, Variety, Musical, Literary, and Painting Professions who are serving their King and country." Staff-Sergeant Wrighton is organising a matinée, to take place in January at a West-End theatre, for the widows and orphans of members of the professions mentioned who have fallen during the war.

THE ALHAMBRA'S NEW MANAGER.

Mr. Edward Foster, who is to take over the management of the Alhambra, Leicester-square, on Jan. 10, under Mr. Stoll's auspices, comes from the Alhambra, Glasgow.

He was born in Cork, in 1876, his father being Major F. A. Foster, of the Royal Marine Artillery, who fought in the Crimea with great distinction, and was mentioned in despatches for gallant conduct at the battle of the Sea of Azov, and at the storming of the Redan. Mr. Foster was brought up for the Army, but owing to defective eyesight took to banking. He got his first start in Florence, Italy, with the firm of Maquay, Hooker, and Co., and subsequently went with the National Provincial Bank of England and the Bank of Bengal, Calcutta. He speaks French and Italian fluently. But he soon tired of banking, and joined the Dallas Opera Co. in India, playing in a repertory of musical comedy all round the Far East.

Mr. Stoll gave him his first engagement in

MR. EDWARD FOSTER.

June, 1901, at the Holloway Empire. From Holloway Empire he went to Stratford Empire, and later took charge at the Bordesley Palace, Birmingham, and also the Grand Theatre, Birmingham. Mr. Foster is a keen sportsman—fishing coming first—a crack shot, and has been exceedingly popular with the patrons of his theatres.

On his resignation of the Glasgow Alhambra becoming known, Mr. Foster received a letter of high appreciation from the Lord Provost of Glasgow, who feels that his removal to London deprives the city of Glasgow of the presence, not only of a most useful citizen, but of one who at all times has been prepared to discharge whatever public duty was entrusted to him with the greatest willingness and enthusiasm.

Spry and Monti are making a "big success" in the revue, "Spots," in which Miss Freda Spry is singing two winners, "Kentucky home" and "Lenzie."

Mr. F. A. Lumley's Carnival, "Bonnie Scotland," was successfully opened at Waverley Market, Edinburgh, on Monday.

Miss Violet Harley, who has concluded a successful autumn engagement with Mr. Edward Cooper and Miss Ethel Griffies as Stasia in "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," has been engaged by Mr. Hutchison for Nelly in "Stop Thief."

Messrs. Rayne, of Waterloo-road, inform us that their Christmas trade this year is greater than it has ever been at any previous Christmas season. This, in face of the war depression amongst so many theatrical costumiers, is very remarkable, and Mr. Henry James Rayne, who, with his younger brother, is managing this go-ahead firm, attributes it mainly to the fact of his foresight in having provided an increased stock of all kinds of goods required by the actor and actress, and also kept up a full staff of employees, so that he has been able to cope quickly with the Christmas rush, to the great satisfaction of all his numerous clients.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

DEATHS.

ARMSTRONG.—Killed instantly, in France, on Nov. 29, while reconnoitring, 2nd Lieut. Henry Louis Winthrop Armstrong, 7th Batt. Somerset Light Infantry, aged 35.

IN MEMORIAM.

MELVILLE.—In loving memory of George Melville, the actor, who died Dec. 26, 1898. Fold him, God, in Thine arms, and let him henceforth be a messenger between our human hearts and Thee. Affectionately remembered by his loving daughter Alice.

FOR SYMPATHY.

Mr. and Mrs. Foote, having just returned from Africa, take the first opportunity of thanking their friends and relatives for sympathy in the irreparable loss of their only son, who was killed in France, Sept. 18. Our heartfelt thanks to all.

NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

(*Continued from page 6.*)

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11; matinée, Boxing Day, 2.30).—Four Holloways, Maggie Carr, Marini, Nelson Trio, Velma's Fashion Models, Tom Wild's "Quarrymen," Velancho's Leaping Hounds, Bioscope. Saturday, Jan. 1: Miss Irene Vanbrugh and London company in "Rosalind," &c.

PLYMOUTH PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 10.30).—Fred Karno's "Hot and Cold," Three Walkers, Groesman and Winters. Matinées Monday and Saturday.

READING PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES (rehearsal, 1).—Leolin, Ellis Barrieton, May Henderson, Sharp's Tromboneers, John Warren presents "The Mummy Drug," the Five Aubreys, Jack Sands, Les Manuel Francois.

SOUTHPORT PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 12).—"Search Me," E. Thornley Dodge, Miller Sutcliffes, and the Astors.

TAUNTON LYCEUM NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—"A Baby's Shoe" (T. Norman), Gibbon Duo, R. T. Chinn.

WIGAN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—W. C. Judge's company in "The Girl and the Seal," introducing Miss Kathleen Gibson and Miss Dorothy Hayman, Wal Marsden, the Ketos, the Ryewoods Trio, Ida Renita, the Doves, Ez Tait, the Hippograph, and Phil Rees and his Little Coppers.

WORTHING HIPPODROME (matinée, 3, 27th; rehearsal, 12).—The Bassos, Sergt. C. Wragg, Dora Lynne, Sylvia Manse, the Vidals, Mons. Oron, Doris Webster, the Bellinis, Gladys Wagshott, Moister's Mannikins, and Will Firth.

YORK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11.—J. P. Gillin and company, the Mongadors, the Futami Japanese Troupe, Phil Ludo, Clo d'Arti, Mlle. Alma Reigal, Hinsle, and A. E. Astor.

Mr. Neil F. Curtis has been engaged by Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry to play one of the principal parts, that of Armand St. Just, in "The Scarlet Pimpernel," on their spring tour.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON.

To Managers of Concert Parties, Entertainment Caterers and Others.

The Council hereby invite TENDERS for the hire of:—

1. An Entertainment Stand on the BEACH opposite Cannon Place.
2. An Entertainment Stand on the MADEIRA DRIVE, for the Season 1916.

Conditions and Form of Tender may be obtained on application at my office, where sealed Tenders, addressed to me and endorsed "Tender for Hire of Entertainment Stands," must be left before Ten o'clock in the forenoon on Wednesday, the twelfth day of January, 1916.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender.

HUGO TALBOT,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Brighton,
17th December, 1915.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

LONDON.

LONDON, N.W.—Bed and sitting-room, also combined, vacant; cooking and attendance; piano. Mrs. MINTER, 26, Lyme-street, Camden Town, near Tube.

N.W. (Regent's Park).—18, Mornington-road. Well-furnished combined bed-sitting-rooms; nothing better in London; every attention; excellent cooking; terms moderate. Mrs. Prior.

S.E.—MRS. TREE, 396, Kennington-road.

W.C.—Bed-sitting-rooms, comfortable and cosy, from 10s.; two sharing, 15s.; meals as req.; near King's Cross, Euston, St. Pancras, Piccadilly, &c. Write, White Lodge, 1, Hunter-street (Russell-square Tube), W.C.; or wire, "Arriving, London."

W. — Comfortable home for pros.; terms moderate; bath; recommended by well-known pros.; minute Empire; 7, Hammersmith; convenient City. 8, Poplar-grove, Shepherd's Bush-road, London, W.

W.—76, Lexham Gardens. Handsome combined room, from 14s. 6d. to 17s.; single rooms, 8s., 9s., 10s. 6d.; rec. by Miss Ray Wallace. Board if required. 'Phone, 2282 Western. MILLS.

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ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Mrs. HORROCKS, 93, Stamford-street.

BARGOED.—MRS. LEONARD, 8, Usk-street; front sitting-room (piano), one or two bedrooms; large front combined; three minutes theatre, station; very highly recommended.

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CROYDON.—Mrs. JEFFRIES, 83, Waddon New-road.

EASTBOURNE.—SHERWOOD, 13, Willowfield-road.

LIVERPOOL. — Mrs. MAY, 24, Canterbury-st., Islington.

LIVERPOOL.—Mrs. POWELL, 7, Caird-street. Very comfortable sitting-room and bedroom, with good piano; also front combined; one minute to Olympia and Hippo.; highly recommended for cleanliness, good cooking, and comfort; central to all theatres; moderate.

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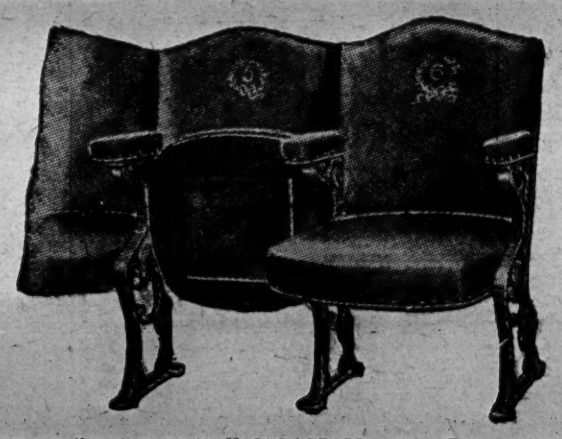

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Write for particulars. Our Mr. Windibank will be with you by return.
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ARTISTES WANTED.
Continued from page 5.

WANTED, Wanted, immediately,

50 Chorus Ladies.
50 Chorus Ladies.
50 Chorus Ladies.
50 Chorus Ladies.
50 Chorus Ladies.
50 Chorus Ladies,

Salary up to £2 5s.
Salary up to £2 5s.
Salary up to £2 5s.
Salary up to £2 5s.
Salary up to £2 5s.
Salary up to £2 5s.

Good appearance and voice essential.

Apply at once (with song) to
BLUNDELL'S AGENCY,
34, Margaret-street, Regent-street (2 minutes from Oxford-circus Tube Station).
'Phone, Museum 652.

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WANTED, Entire Company for above, including Child Actress; to rehearse and open almost immediately. Pleased to hear from any of the old members of my companies who are at liberty. Address, J. PITT HARDACRE, Arundel Hotel, London, W.C.

WANTED, to join at once, Useful People, for Repertoire; Heavy Gent., to share leads; also Lady, to share leads; a Good Responsible Man; also Baggage, to act. Wire or write. Open Boxing Night. State age, lowest terms.
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WANTED, to rehearse at once, Useful People, all lines; open Dec. 27; stock and tour; four or five pieces weekly. Lowest terms, PRODUCER, Olympia Theatre, Murton, Durham.

WANTED, immediately, Stock (three pieces weekly), Artistes, all lines; Smart Young Comedian. Age, height, photo (stamped), refs., and lowest, and if turns. RAY, Palace, Barnoldswick. George White and Dolly Grafton write in.

WANTED, Revue Artistes, Chorus Ladies, Producer, Pianist-Conductor, able to take from voice, Carpenter, able to make props. Apply THOMAS, 248, Camberwell-road, S.E.

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WANTED, Practical Carpenter, own tools, capable of speaking a few lines; rehearse at once; open Monday, London.
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This, Queen's T., Poplar.
Next, 2, Fisher-street, Oldham.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Classical Solo Dancer. Good Figure. Attractive appearance, for immediate London engagement. Apply at once.
J. M. JONES
190, Euston-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, REAL CHORUS LADY, and Smart Lady for a small part; three days' rehearsal only.

Also Juvenile Man, able to sing and play a part.

Apply, to-day, Wednesday, 12 o'clock,
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WANTED, Engagement, in High-class Work, by Experienced Scenic Artist.
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WANTED, Scenic Artists to Know LEETE'S Colours, &c., are the best. Write for Catalogue.
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WANTED, to Buy an Oak Chamber, with balcony along back and staircase down right; must be good. State lowest terms for cash.
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ARTISTES WANTED.

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WANTED, for Revue (rehearse next week),
Smart Chorus Ladies and Dancers.
Smart Chorus Ladies and Dancers.
Salary £2. Call 11 to 4.
Also Pair of Funny Comedians (experienced).
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WANTED, Two Smart Chorus Ladies, with good voices. Open immediately. Long Tour, Musical Comedy. Apply, with song, HORSFIELD AND WOODWARD, 102, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

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WANTED, Wanted, Chorus Ladies; also Dancers, immediately.

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Terms moderate. Engagements guaranteed.
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WANTED, Wanted, Good Operator.

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WANTED, Resident Carpenter, at once. Terms, refs., &c.,
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Next, 2, Fisher-street, Oldham.

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WANTED, Wanted, Wanted Wanted,
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for Established Revue.
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WANTED, at once, Smart Pianist-Conductor, used to musical comedy or revue.
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WANTED, Lady Violiniste, to commence Friday; must be expert sight reader; pictures; 35s. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 383, Fulham Palace-road, S.W.

WANTED, for Musical Act, Lady Violin or 'Cello Soloist; one with a good voice and able to play small part preferred. Begin immediately. Apply at once, stating salary,
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WANTED, Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, Contrabassists (Musicians exempt from Military service preferred) to Register for Atlantic Liner Orchestras. Messrs. C. W. AND F. N. BLACK, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

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Address, in first instance, to
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WANTED, Violinist (permanency) for Theatre and Tea Rooms; terms.
Apply, HOWGILL,
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WANTED, Violinists, Ladies and Gentlemen, immediate engagements in and out of town. Call at my office any time on Thursday. MME. MAY WALTER, 46, Fitzroy-street, W.

WANTED, Good Violin and 'Cello Soloists (Ladies), for Musical Act. Good appearance essential. Age, height, absolute lowest, and terms and photo, to MANAGER, 38, Melrose-gardens, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, for Special Fortnight, Dec. 27, near London, Violin and 'Cello or Two Violins. Apply personally to A. PLAYER, Bath House, 96, Dean-street Oxford-street, W. (between 12 and 5 Wednesdays, or 3 and 6 Thursday and Friday.)

THEATRE ROYAL, PONTYPOOL.
WANTED, Cornet, Trombone, Flute and Piccolo. Age, references, lowest terms, &c., to PITT, T.R., Pontypool, Mon.

WANTED, Cornet and Drums, Jan. 3 week. Also Cornet, Drums, Flute, and Clarinet, Jan. 10 week.
M.-D., Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, for Musical Act, Cornet Player; tall youth or man ineligible for the Service preferred. State terms, height, and age; join immediately. Box 5,154, "The Era."

WANTED, rehearse Saturday, Cornet; pantomime; three weeks' engagement; twice daily. Terms, particulars, E. VAN BIENE, Palace Pier, St. Leonards.

WANTED, Clarinet for Theatre, permanency; Solo Cornet, Trombone, and Drums for one month. First-class players and non-union. Send full details and salary expected to CONDUCTOR, 8, Sandringham-drive, New Brighton.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for London Staff Band,
Clarinets,
Flute,
Saxophones,
and Trombone.
Usual Army pay and allowances.

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WANTED, Bass and Clarinet.
Terms and references to
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WANTED, good Double Bass player for Reading; also good Stage Carpenter for Pantomime, to commence immediately. Terms and references. MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Bass Player, for Cinema Orchestra; used to standard works;
open Monday next.
ADLINGTON, Carlton Cinema, Swansea.

WANTED, Musician ('Cellist), Lady or Gent., for Regent Theatre, Great Yarmouth; five hours daily; salary £2 5s.; permanency; open at once. FRANK THOMAS, 43, Prince's-rd., Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Good Amateur 'Cellist, Lady or Gentleman,
for London.
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WANTED, Wanted, 'Cello; able to play Piano; and Pianist, able to play organ; male or female. 35s.
Terms, M. D.,
68, Mill-street,
Alios, N.B.

WANTED, Lady or Gent. 'Cello, to open on Dec. 27 in London. Evenings only. Call Thursday morning, at 11 o'clock, at 44, Warwick-avenue, Maida Vale, W.

WANTED, Good 'Cellist, lady or gentleman, experienced to pictures, for Southsea; also Northampton; Monday next; evenings only. Wire or write, STUART, 167, Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, 'Cellist, immediately for celebrated ensemble touring. Young lady 'cellist, brilliant soloist, possessing strong individuality, good appearance, and qualification, essential. Long engagement. Give all particulars when writing. BERNARD ASH, Palladium, Southport.

WANTED, Oboe Player, at once.
Apply, terms and experience,
MUSICAL DIRECTOR,
Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Oboe, for duration of war. Salary £2 per week. Commence Dec. 27, if possible. Wire, SHACKLETON, M.-D.

WANTED, Competent Oboe, for Pantomime; four weeks certain; rehearsals previous to opening Boxing Day. Terms and pars. to MANAGER, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Oboe, to open Dec. 27; terms £2. References, &c. Apply,
J. HOWARD SHACKLETON.

MESSRS. C. W. AND J. R. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, for Edinburgh Season, and Tour to follow, Flute, String Bass, and Trombone and Leader; open Dec. 27, at Edinburgh; lowest terms, refs.,
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Apply, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Pavilion.

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WANTED, a good Flautist; A.M.U. terms; twice nightly variety; permanency to right man. Apply, with copies of refs., &c., to ALBERT A. PHILLIPS, Musical Director.

WANTED, a Pipe-Organist (experienced) for West London, as Relief only, not playing with orchestra. Write immediately, giving full particulars, to Box 5,144, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Pianist; experienced orchestra, pictures; for Ladies' Quartette; permanency; Cardiff. State particulars, lowest terms. AGNES NEWTON, Lane Ends, Osbaldeston, near Blackburn.

WANTED, Pianiste (must be first-class), Good 'Celliste, and Flautiste. Open Boxing Day, S. Wales. Pic. six evenings; one matinée. Wire terms. 6, Clare-terrace, Falmouth.

WANTED, Brilliant Orchestral Pianiste, experienced to pictures or useless. Call, Thursday morning, 12 o'clock, 60, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, Relief Pianist (orchestral); combine first violin if possible. Call or write, 2.30 Wednesday. CONDUCTOR, Grand Cinema, Great Western-road, Paddington.

WANTED, immediately, Good Pianist, for dancing. Must be first-class player.
Salary 30s.
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WANTED, at once, until middle of January, with possible extension, Tympanist, to combine side drum, pedal cymbal, and effects. Tympany and bass drum supplied. Provinces. Good terms to experienced player. Evening dress. Particulars to Box 5,146, "The Era."

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WANTED, Wanted, Wanted. Full Orchestra, to open Thursday, Dec. 30, 1915; none but first-class musicians need apply. Permanency if suitable. Apply to SYDNEY L. HAMPTON, Musical Director, Regent Theatre, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Musicians for Pantomime. Apply, with references,
C. B. HOWELLS, Musical Director, Hippodrome, Richmond.

WANTED, Full Orchestra for Empire Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, to open Jan. 3. Terms, 35s. per week; half salaries for matinées.
J. H. STEVENS, Musical Director,
Dixon-street, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Military Band, for garrison duty only; 1st B-flat Clarinet, 6 Trombone, Euphonium, B-flat Bass, Bassoon, Buglers. Apply,
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WANTED, for a large Cinema in the West of England, Musicians in all lines. Full particulars, letters, to Box 5,153, "The Era."

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WANTED, to complete the band of the above batt., Two Bases, One Base Trombone, One Euphonium, One Oboe; all bandsmen for home service; band duties only. Apply, Drum Major PERCY, 16, High-street, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Trio (Violin, 'Cello, and Piano),
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Experienced combination required.
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The Entertainments Committee of the Rhyl Urban District Council invite Tenders for the supplying of an Orchestra of 14 performers, to play in the Pavilion and Gardens, Rhyl, from July 23 to Sept. 3, 1916, both dates inclusive.

The Orchestra will be required to play twice daily in the Gardens, and in the Pavilion in the evening, for the purposes of Variety Performances and Vocal and Orchestral Concerts; also to play at the Sacred Concerts on Sunday evening.

Tenders to be addressed to the undersigned at his office, Pavilion, Rhyl, not later than Jan. 6 next.
(Signed) J. W. JONES, Manager.

N.B.—The Orchestra must not include any members who are eligible for service in the Army.

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WANTED, Musical Directors and Managers to write at once to
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Overtures, Selections, Suites, Latest Popular Music. Piano Solos. Music Selected to Suit All Films.
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Great experience in
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Apply, VIOLINIST,
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WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass (4 strings); at liberty in a fortnight; experienced all lines; Provinces preferred; references as to ability, reliability; ineligible. Box 5,152, "The Era."

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WANTED, Engagement, First-class Clarinette; thoroughly experienced; fine Soloist; Theatre or Music Hall; London area; good offers only. Apply, Box 5,132, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by thoroughly experienced Double Bass, any business. MISS FLORENCE BELL, 84, Leathwaite-road, Clapham Common, London, S.W.

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WANTED, Engagement, permanency, by experienced Orchestral Pianist, combine 2nd Violin; abstainer; good refs.; no touring; A.M.U.; at lib. through disappointment; state terms and full particulars. Wires please prepay. MANTON, 12, Surtees-street, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, by Pianist, brilliant, Position in cinema; sight reader; used to playing with others; extensive library; composition and arrangements if required. H. D., 35, Queen's-road, Peckham.

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WANTED, Engagement, either as Trio, Quartette, or Small Band, for Cinemas, &c. Can be heard where working if desired. Large library of up-to-date and classical music. Fully experienced. A. REEVE, 30, The Avenue, Brucegrove, London, N.

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WANTED, New Year's Week.

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WANTED, immediately, Skate Mechanic, for repairing roller skates. Salary 30s. State experience. MANAGER, Victoria Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, Engagement by Floor Manager: ex. refs., N.S.A. medallist; ineligible; good teacher and exhibition skater; speak French. Address, E. ELLIS, 6, Stour-street, Canterbury.

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WANTED, to Buy for Cash, Quantity of Second-hand Skates. JACOB, 75, Wilberforce-road, London, N.

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Wants Artistes in all lines for all parts from Monday onwards.

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WANTED to Let, Large Club-room, with use of Piano; suitable for Rehearsals.

Apply, HENRY SAMMONS, Mercers' Arms, Castle-street, Long-acre, W.C.

WANTED, to Rent, Picture Theatre or Hall, suitable in or near London preferred. State full particulars by letter, MANAGER, 75, Church-road, Leyton, N.E.

WANTED, to Hire, Four Ponies and Coach for "Cinderella." Wire lowest terms, MANAGER, 15, Benedict-road, Stockwell, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Wanted, GUS GORMAN, to know, Letter awaits you, "The Era" letter-box.

For further Wanted Advertisements see Page 40.

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These calls are communicated by the management for the convenience of Artistes without prejudice.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, DEC. 27, 1915.

No Deputies will be accepted at Rehearsals. Any Artistes absenting themselves will be liable to have their contracts cancelled.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Joy-Land!"

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Six Ceylons, Will Van Allen, Maggie Benson, Chas. Ulrick.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Frank Le Dent, New Macs.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
The Grumblers, Dolly Victoria Troupe, Mazuz and Mazette, Hengler Bros.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.
Closed for Alterations.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
(Matinees Mon., Thurs. and Sat. at 2.30).
Rehearsal at 11.30 a.m. for:—
Elsa De Sylva, Arthur Page.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Rizaldo, The Harlequinaders, Ted Hopkin, Three Merrills, Joe and Willy, Dandy George.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Jackson Potter, Dju Sen.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Carron Troupe, Little Ena Dayne, Wynn and Winter.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.
Picture Entertainments, &c.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Oxford Quartette, Arthur Brittain, Horace R. Wells, Una Kingston.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Clown Barker, Fields and Coco, George Newburn.

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Four Royal Scots, Irene Millar.

GRAND, GLASGOW.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"The Concealed Bed," Vardell Bros., Chas. Mildare, Harry Herbert, Lotto, Lilo and Otto Little Freddie Hackin.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Romanesca Quartette, Five Wartons, Conway and Darrell, Christie Duo.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Four Renees, The Great Cyril, Gyto.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Company as booked.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
The Grand Circus.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Company as booked.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Tom Jones, Will Tyler, Three Diamonds.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Victoria Monks, Zakaree Ermakov, O'Gorman Bros.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Terriss and Romaine, Jack Lorimer, Stella Stahl.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Resident Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
7 Perezoffs, Barry Rayne, Costa and Geo.

NEW EMPIRE CINEMA, NEWCASTLE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S THEATRE, SOUTHSEA.
Rehearsal at 11.0 a.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Pasquali Brothers, Carlos Menard, Maurice, "Look Out."

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
De Marest, L'lian Carter, Kioto Trio, "Have a Guess."

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Martini Trio, Wilfred Burnand, Duley and Thompson, "Tit-Bits."

HER MAJESTY'S T., WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
"Cinderella."

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Artistes' Business must be absolutely free from vulgarity.

Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose Photographs. Artistes are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Applications for Engagements by Artistes or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (*a*) West End (*b*) Suburban, (*c*) Large, and (*d*) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artistes are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents.

Scenery and Properties must be fireproofed to approval of Local Authorities.

Silence a polite negative.

Artistes desirous of submitting their Acts at private auditions should communicate with Head Office.

Matinees are held every Wednesday at the **Empire Theatre, South Shields,** at which new acts may be presented. Applications should be made to the Manager at the Theatre.

Engagements of Artistes are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not observed:—

(1) Matter for bills and programmes, blocks, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (*a*) in the case of singers, copies of the songs and patter, (*b*) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's Licence, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.

(2) Artistes must attend rehearsals, no deputies being accepted.

Important Notice to Artistes and Agents. When an Artiste or Act having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artiste that this is not desired.

Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the **Managing Director** or **Business Manager**, and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.

Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.

The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payment.

The Company will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage to Manuscripts, Songs, etc., submitted or sent to it for any purpose.

Mr. FRANK ALLEN, *Managing Director*
Mr. A. P. DE COURVILLE, *Assistant to Managing Director and Booking Manager for the London Hippodrome.*
Mr. ERNEST WIGHTON, *Booking Manager for the Tour.*
} Can be seen by appointment Only.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY.

STAR ACTS FOR AFRICAN TOUR.

BIG SALARY to GOOD ACTS.

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NOTE.—There has not been a submarine seen on this route since war began.

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Agents for **Australian Circuit (McIntosh); Indian Tour (Bandman); South American Tour.**

Good Acts of all descriptions for Principal Tours—Approved Acts send Date Lists.

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Telegrams and Cables: "AFFILTRUS, LONDON." Telephone: REGENT 1671.

LEO DRYDEN'S

Xmas Greeting.

On Christmas Day forget the War,
But think of those who'll fight no more,
Forget the horrors of the Huns,
But drink success to the Allies' guns.
And when the day is past and gone
Prepare once more to carry on.

Christmas Arrangements,

HIPPODROME, DARTFORD.
JAN. 3, HIPPODROME, PETERBOROUGH.

Private address, 49, Elgin Mansions, W.

Phone, 5437 Hampstead.

The Stage Productions Syndicate.
Presenting
The Laughter Revue

MERRY & BRIGHT

Written by WAL PINK.
Star Company Headed by

HERBERT DARNLEY
(HIMSELF)

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DA COSTA (The Young Caruso)
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POLSON TURNER.
J. ARUNDELL.
ED. ROSS,
DORA DENT,
and MAUDIE FRANCIS,

FULL VOCAL & DANCING CHORUS.

Since the production at the EMPIRE, CHELMSFORD, to packed business, an unbroken run of SUCCESS.

Thanks for contracts and offers to Messrs. John Hart, Geo. Minchill, J. B. Mulholland, J. Huddlestone, &c. &c.

THIS WEEK: TIVOLI, MANCHESTER.
NEXT WEEK: T. R. WINCHESTER.
WANTED
JAN. 3rd, 17th, (Midlands)
Theatres or Music Halls.
HERBERT DARNLEY,
Tivoli, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL CARDS.

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ATLAS VULCANA TROUPE.
Dec. 20, Alhambra, Barnoldswick.
Require Dec. 27, also Jan. 3 and 10.

BELMONT, GEO. E., who started the craze of Twice Nightly, Sebright, 1885. Now Boss of "Belmont's," opposite Palace Theatre, London. House of call for all artistes.

CAMBO and CASTELLE and FAMILY (Alex, Nora, and Heather) wish All a Merry Xmas. Palace, Islington. Next, Imperial Palace, Canning Town. London.

GREENLEES, THE FIVE.
A riot last week, Victoria, Hartshill.
Next, Hippo., Hemsworth.
A Merry Xmas to All.

JAFFA, the Comedy Conjurer.
This week, Hippo., Brighton.
Monday next, Hippo., Newcastle.
De Frece's Agency.

LUPINO, CISSIE.
Charming Clever Dancer.
This week, Shepherd's Bush Empire. Next, Palace, Blackburn. Agent, Will Oliver.

MILLS, JOCK.
Scotch Humorist and Raconteur.
Representative, Geo. Foster.

WHITTLE, CHAS. R.
Comedian.
Somers and Co.

YAMAMOTO and MISS KOYOSHI TROUPE, Japanese Equilibrists and Entertainers. This, 68, Rumford-st., Manchester. Vacant Jan. 3, onwards.

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A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA" Post Free to any address in the United Kingdom for TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.
Address, The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand. Tel. address, "The Era, London." 'Phone, 4546 and 4547 Regent.

TELEGRAMS: OSWASTOLL, WESTRAND, LONDON. NEW TELEPHONE: GERRARD 7545 (2 lines).

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COLISEUM SYNDICATE, Ltd., MIDDLESEX THEATRE OF VARIETIES, Ltd., HACKNEY AND SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE PALACES, Ltd., WOOD GREEN EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, Ltd., MANCHESTER HIPPODROME AND ARDWICK EMPIRE, Ltd., LEICESTER PALACE THEATRE, Ltd., CHISWICK EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, Ltd., CHATHAM EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, Ltd., ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARADE HIPPODROME, BRISTOL, Ltd.

Chairman & Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.

Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR DECEMBER 27, 1915.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Seymour Hicks and Isobel Elsom in "The Bridal Suite," Yorke and Leonard, Alfred Lester in "Simpson's Stores," Julian Henry, Elliott Savonas, Du Calion, Manny and Roberts, Johnson Clark, "Russia, 1915," Bioscope.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"She's a Daisy," Reece Duo, Auber, George E. Rymer, Bioscope.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Albert Foster, O'Hanlon and Rivkin, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Sadie Lloyd, Six Brothers Luck, Frederick Sylvester, Murphy and Mack, The Aberdares, Bert Lytton, Bioscope, Helen Moray.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Mlle. Doris, Edith Fisk, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Barnes, George Lashwood, Cole de Losse, May Sherrard, The Junes, Adam Tomlinson, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Wells and Mayban, Manny and Roberts, Norman Payne, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Ida Long, The Goodalls, The Villions, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
The Selbinis, Warsaw Brothers, The Flying Mars, Janet Alexander and Lauderdale Maitland, Harry Hudson, Amos Howard, Dorothy Grey, Bioscope.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME.
Pictures and Varieties.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Arthur Lewis, Naval Quartette, The Avolos, Violet Grey, Radford and Valentine, The Diving Norins, Viviana's Toyshop, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
The Diving Belles, Brooklyn Comedy Four, Les Trombetta, Emilie Hayes, Speedwell, Samaroff and Sonia, Miss Cashmore, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
"5064 Gerrard."

FLORAL HALL, LEICESTER.
Pictures.

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

FULHAM HIPPODROME.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. London Coliseum and Manchester Hippodrome require 20 parts, including 3 first violins, extra 'cello and bass and extra piano part for harp if not scored for.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration

---

THE

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS

PROVIDING CONTINUOUS ENGAGEMENTS FOR ARTISTES AT THE MOST IMPORTANT VARIETY THEATRES IN THE LONDON AREA.

General Administrative Offices:

25, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.

Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, December 27, 1915.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 11.30.
J. Fabert's Revue "Honi Soit . . !"
R. G. Knowles, Riogoku Family, Frederic Norton, Leslie Glenroy, Bioscope.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12
Marie Lloyd, Walter Bentley's Revue "Odds On," Jock McKay, Bert Errol, Daunton Shaw Troupe, Harry Webber, The Melodians, Bioscope.

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15.
Marie Lloyd, R. G. Knowles, Femina Quartette, George D'Albert, Victor and George, Bobbie Thornton, McIvor and Scott, Lottie Lennox, Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
"Step, Look, Listen Revue, The Mandos, Dora Lyric, Armand Arba, Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
De Biere, Maria Kendall, Dion Wade, Juggling Jays, Vera and Syd, Lena Lloyd, Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Harry Day's Revue "Made in Eng'and," Femina Quartette, George D'Albert, Dan Dudley, Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
J. Banister's Howard's Pantomime "Red Riding Hood."

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2.
Harry Burns' Pantomime "The Forty Thieves."

BRIXTON EMPRESS.
Rehearsal at 12.
Conrad and Zeitlin's Co., "The Million Dollar Girl, Chas. Whittle, Cooper and Lait, Society Quartette, Bioscope.

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Arthur Rigby's Pantomime "Babes in the Wood."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes without prejudice.

MISS MARIE LLOYD.

Next, OXFORD and METROPOLITAN.

Sole Representative, Walter Bentley.

MISS VESTA VICTORIA.

Queen of Domestic Comedy.

Address, Milton Hall, Loughborough-park, Brixton, S.W.

Huge Success on Tour.
"Emmie's Christmas Tree."

EMMIE AMES.

Per. address, Hippodrome, Wisbech.

'Phone, Wisbech 116.

FLORRIE FORDE.

On Tour.

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MADAME MAY WALTER'S
Variety and Dramatic Agency.
46, Fitzroy-street, W.
'Phone, Museum 2464.

Orchestras (Ladies and Gents.). Repertoire, 8,000.

Established 1889.
HARRIS FINEBERG,
Theatrical and Variety Agent,
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Telegrams, "Applause, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1752 Royal, Liverpool.
Artistes with immediate open time communicate.

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BLUNDELL'S AGENCY
have the Best and Finest
Chorus Ladies in London.

Call or 'phone,
65, Margaret-street, Regent-street, W.
(two min. from Oxford Circus Tube Station).

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RENE RALPH.
Rehearsing, Principal Boy,
PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Producing Xmas Eve.
Vacant for Spring Tour.
Offers invited for First-class Revue.

"A Singer of all Her Own Songs."
The Versatile Comedienne,

MISS LILLIE LANGTRY.

"ALADDIN."
Principal Boy.

L.T.V. Circuit,
London.

MISS DAISY JAMES.
Everybody's Favourite.

Boxing Day, HIPPODROME, LEWISHAM,
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Compliments of the Season.

COOPER MITCHELL,
of the London Coliseum, &c.
Song and Story at the Piano.
'Phone, Chiswick 1112, and
Ashton's Royal Agency.

This week,
HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.

TOM CLARE.

The Entertainer at the Piano.

This week, THE COLISEUM.

"Bad as you are."
"Bad as you are," by Tom Goldburn.

MR. ARTHUR LENNARD.

ON TOUR.

WILKIE BARD.

Dec. 20, EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Dec. 27, KING'S, SOUTHSEA.

"Mr. Bottomley," R. P. Weston.
"The Villain Still Pursued Her," Weston and H. Darewski.

"Commercial," Weston and Bert Lee.
(Francis and Day.)

MARK SHERIDAN.

This week, EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Next, HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.

Authors Note.—Money for Brains.
Peels', Ltd.

Latest, "Including Costs."
"Including Costs."
"Including Costs."
Written by Wal Pink. Music by J. S. Baker.

JOE ELVIN.
Dec. 27, GULLIVER CIRCUIT,
POPLAR and ROTHERHITHE,
presenting "Including Costs."

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS.

Next week, HIPPODROME, LEEDS.

Business Manager, Ernest Edelsten.

T. E. DUNVILLE.
London always.

Gulliver's Travels, 4 trips nightly.
Letters c/o "The Era."

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"Follow the Drum."
MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR.
"Stick to Kitchener."
Great success everywhere.
No vacant dates this year.
Booked most of 1916.

Always something new.
Gulliver's London Halls.

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WANTED, Wanted Wanted, for
Dublin, Belfast, Birkenhead, Stockport, Oldham, Bolton, Liverpool, Leeds, Sheffield, Newcastle, Glasgow, Barrow, Darlington, Bradford, Blackburn, Southport, Burnley, Manchester, Warrington, Halifax, Preston, &c., &c., &c.

All the Best and Greatest Attractions.

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COMBINATIONS,

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STAR COMEDIENNES,

SPECIALITIES,

NOVELTIES, &c.

Price no object to the right goods.
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'Phone No. 6885 City. Wires, "Variety."

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45-6, Chandos-street,
Charing Cross, W.C.

'Phone, Regent 5529.
Telegrams, "Knarfoyce, Westrand, London."

WANTED, Variety Artistes, all Lines. Artistes working North of Scotland communicate.

AUBREY, Pavilion, Wick, N.B.

JOHN E. WEST'S VAUDEVILLE AGENCY,
144, Wellington-street, Glasgow.

'Phone, 744 Douglas.

WANTED, Acts of Every Description. Absolute lowest terms and full list of bookings, &c.

Dundee 'Phone: 1933 Dundee. Glasgow 'Phone: 375 Bell.

WANTED, Wanted, Variety Acts.

THE BEST IN ALL LINES,

BIG AND SMALL.

Specialities immediately.

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15, Castle-street, Dundee.
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WANTED, Big Revues, Pantomimes, also Big Combinations; own companies. Also Musical Act, Troupes of Juveniles, Sopranos, Contraltos. STERLING, 3, Leamington-avenue, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, for
DICK'S MILITARY THEATRES
and Companies, high-class Variety Artistes, refined, smart Duos, for 7 nights, Oswestry, open Dec. 25; also Pianiste. Wire, DICK, 15, Gower-street, Aston Birmingham.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.

WANTED, Wanted, for Jan. 3, First-class Juvenile Troupes, Good Singing and Dancing Acts, Spectacular Musical Acts, Big Comedy Numbers, Sensational Specialities, and Anything New, Novel, and Original. Also Acts of Every Description Required for the Following dates:—Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, onward.
Address, with lowest terms, to

MANAGER,
Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artistes of every description; big and small Acts; immediate and future dates. We can get the dates for approved acts. Please send full bookings from Dec. 27 onwards, and lowest terms first instance. Allartistes known to us please write quickly.
DURHAM AND IVES,
Theatrical and Variety Agents,
400, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

Telephone: Brixton 2,057.

MILNE'S VAUDEVILLE AGENCY,
135, Wellington-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Acts and Specialities of every description for Immediate and Future Dates. Acts with odd weeks for Ireland write.

Date-sheets, litho., photos, and lowest terms, first letter.

HARRY LEATON'S AGENCY,
420, Sauchiehall-street, Glasgow.

Telephone, Douglas 3142.
Telegrams, "Cockney, Glasgow."

WANTED, Wanted Wanted, Wanted,
Top, Bottoms, Middles,
Artistes of Every Description,
for all parts of the country,
for Immediate and Future Dates.

Write immediately, fullest particulars, date-sheet, and lowest terms.

Wires, "Jovial, Glasgow." 'Phone, Douglas, 3197 Glasgow.

SYD HERMAN AND CO.,
95, Bath-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Big Attractions,
Big Attractions,
also Acts of Every Description, also Acts of Every Description. Immediate Dates. Immediate Dates. (Also Later Bookings.) Send fullest particulars in first letter (to save time).

WANTED, Comedians, Vocalists, Specialities, three nights, Town Hall, Staines, Dec. 24, 27 and 28; variety and minstrels, black up. Call, 1 to 6 to-day, SYD GODFREY, 33, Lambeth-road, S. E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

GIBB'S AGENCY,
112, Cambridge-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Acts, all kinds.
Artistes coming North should keep us posted.
Immediate Dates for
Good Comedy and Vocal Acts.
Send date-sheet, lowest terms, and perm. address.
'Phone 796 Douglas.
Tel. add.: "Musicale, Glasgow."

MAJOR ARNOLD'S AGENCY.
Palace, Sale, near Manchester.
Booking Agent, Colosseum, Oldham.

WANTED, Big Acts, Juvenile Troupes, &c. Immediate dates. No callers.

WANTED, several good turns for Monday next.

FRANK HARDIE'S AGENCY,
Broadmead House
Panton-street, Haymarket.

'Phone, 4,544, Gerrard.

WANTED, Clever Little Comedian; Music Hall Act; good facial expression, and tumbling essential. Terms, &c., by letter only. MANAGER, 63, Doddington-grove, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Young Man, age 17 to 22, about 5ft. 2in., not heavier than 8st. Able to do forward bending and good splits.

Good salary and long engagement.
Send photo or call.
34, Angell-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Comedy Tumblers

Particulars re tricks, age, height, and terms; open at once.

Well-known troupe.

Box 5,149, "The Era."

WANTED Wanted. Wanted,
A Few Smart Boys.
Age 14 to 17.
Who can tumble a bit.

To join well-known troupe.

State tricks. Box 5,119, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

The Midlands Dainty, MABEL ROSS,
Comedienne and Expert Dancer.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 3. Wire best offers. This, Cross Keys Music Hall, Hednesford, Staffs.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next, by
DORRIE IRVING,
Comedienne and Dancer.

Wire quick, Central Hall, Horsham.

WANTED, by DORIS PHILLIPS, Dainty Child Comedienne and Dancer, Dec. 27, Jan. 3, on.

Wires, Birchwood, Prees, Salop.

WANTED, Monday next, by
KITTY STEWART,
KITTY STEWART,
KITTY STEWART,
In Original Novelty Comedy Songs, at the Piano.
A Feature Act with a Reputation.
Two kinds of attractive six-sheets, by David Allen.

Wire, Opera House, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Monday, also Jan. 3, SISTERS LAVARRA, Dainty Dutch Comediennes, Smart Wooden Shoe Dancers. Well dressed and refined. Wire offers, Picturedrome, Stanley-road, Bootle.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next
(to precede Hippo., King's Lynn),
also Jan. 10,
the Moonlight Minstrel,
AL PENNEY,
in Coon Songs and Dances.
I Never Fail. Exceptional Voice.

Wire, Hippo., Gloucester (Top).
Empire Theatre, Stroud. Next, Hip., Gloucester.

WANTED, Monday next, by BRIZLEE, Flute and Piano Comedy Entertainer; through disappointment.

Wire, 80, Central-drive, Blackpool.

WANTED, by R. T. CHINN, Novelty Instrumentalist. Vac., Jan. 3, and on. Good speciality for revues or pantomimes. This, Theatre, King's Lynn. Next, Olympia, Taunton, Som.

WANTED, Jan. 3, HASSAN, Novel Comedy Act, including laughter-making magic and patter. This, Hippo., Lancaster; next, Hippo., Chorley.

"I pretended not to know."
"I bought her a carriage and pair."
"A rolling stone gathers no moss."
MR. CHARLES BIGNELL.

WANTED, Boxing Night,
Star Terms Only.
A Gigantic Success Everywhere.

Wire, Empress, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 3, BU-VAL, the Happy Dutchman (Concertina).

22, Duke-street, Millom.

WANTED, Next Monday, also Jan. 3, by
T. E. JOHNSTONE,
T. E. JOHNSTONE,

Actor-Vocalist, in Comedy Chorus Songs, also Song Scena, "Wellington." Own illuminated cloth. Just finished successful engagements at Bedford Palace, London, Bristol, Newton Abbot, Bury, Dover, Treorchy, Wednesbury, West Stanley, Kettering, Accrington, Leicester. This week, Victoria Cinema, Dudley Port, Staffs.

All letters and wires to house address,
146, Park-lane West, Tipton, Staffs.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Jan. 3, 10, 24, by
THE SISTERS WEBB
(TINA and INGA).
Great Success
in their new Musical Mélange.
Coms., Principal Agents, or Bus. Man.,
JOJO WEBB, 26, Collingwood-road, Southsea.
Next, 33, Cromwell-road, Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, Monday next, DAN CREW, Scotch Comedian and Dancer.

Wire or write for sure success.
This week, His Majesty's, Shoreham.

Compliments of the Season to all.
WANTED Wanted, Dec. 27, by JACK CLARE, The Aristocratic Southern Coon Delineator; MABEL COMELY, Eccentric Comedienne. This week, Picture Hall, Stamford.

Wire early one or both acts.

WANTED, Wanted Known,
TONY WARD.
TONY WARD.
"A Musical Acts"
in Gems of Melody (past and present), introducing Violin, Mandolin, Xylophone, Jap. Fiddle, Violoncello, Concertina, Phono-Fiddle, Banjo, Sleigh-Bells, Mandolin-Guitar, &c.
Vacant Monday next.
Vacant Monday next.
Vacant Monday next.
Also Jan. 3.

Wire! Wire! Wire!
17, Briggate, Windhill, Shipley, Yorks.

WANTED, Jan. 10, 24, and Feb. 7,
THE GREAT MAURITUS,
THE GREAT MAURITUS,
THE GREAT MAURITUS,
THE GREAT MAURITUS,
the Famous Handcuff King
and Jail Breaker.

All coms., Elders Hotel, Edinburgh.

J. W HALL.
WANTED, Dec. 27 and Jan. 3, 1916.

Westholm, Highbury-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, Dec. 27 (through disappointment), also Jan. 3, by
WALDO and WADE.
"The Pranks of a Postman."
Burlesque Comedy and Character Songs.
Last, Top, Hip., Hemsworth. Coms., Croton House, Sandy-lane, Chorlton, Manchester.

WANTED, Dec. 27, Jan. 3, 17, on,
LUNDEN and PARRY,
Legitimate Performers with a Legitimate and Original 12 minutes' non-stop Laughter Act.

Wire offers to
PARRY, Palace, Chasetown, Staffs.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next,
REEVES and WINN,
Eccentric Instrumental Act.
Top offers, Flat E, 101, Station-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next, by
FRANK and ELSIE,
Delightfully Different Dancers.
Wire, Empire, Aberdare.

The Sarcastic Limit, "Economise."
MAUDE WALSH and BARRY ONO.

WANTED, March 6, Newcastle or Scotland. This, Garston Empire, Liverpool. Next, Electraceum, Oldham.

WANTED, Dec. 27, Jan. 3, 10, by
MARQUIS and TRULY,
MARQUIS and TRULY,
the Acrobatic Droll, the Soubrette, and a Piano.
A Clean, Clever, Artistic, Original Speciality.
Clean Comedy, Clever Piano Items.
First-class Tumbling and Dancing, &c.
Wire, 3, Park-road, Chorley, Lancs.

SILVO and SYLVIA.
SILVO and SYLVIA.
Musical Novelty Attraction. Good draw.
WANTED, Jan. 3, 10, 17.

This week, Colosseum, Oldham.

WANTED Known, Vacant Jan. 3 and 10, by
AMOR and ROMA.
Great Harmony and Comedy Novelty,
"The Sailor and the Lady Passenger."
Ship Scene. Comedy Props. Gorgeous Set.

This week, P.A., 27, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton, S.W.
Next week, Royalty Theatre, Chester.

WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 27, by
VOLTA and MAUD.
VOLTA and MAUD.
Comedy, Acrobatic Gymnastic Act.

Wire, Queen's Hall, Brierley-hill,
Staffs.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 3, 10, 17, by
WINKIPOP and EDIE,
in Musical Comedy and Long Boot Dancing.

This, Albert Hall, Stafford; next, Pal.,
Swadlincote.

DO YOU WANT A NOVELTY? If so, wire.
WANTED, Monday next, by
MARGOTTE AND AUBERT,
in their great Continental Speciality—Vocal, Musical and Dancing Act. Great success Basingstoke, last week. All coms., 105, The Grove, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Dec. 27, Jan. 3,
Panto. or Revue, by
DENBY and DENT,
Comedians,
Front Cloth Comedy Act.

Wire, 11, A. B. Row, Birmingham.

LARKUM BROS.
LARKUM BROS.
LARKUM BROS.
WANTED, Monday next, Dec. 27,
A Novelty Comedy Act, in Front Cloth,
"The New Porter."
Own Scenery. Always Successful.

Wire, Olympia, Bulwell, Notts.

WANTED, Dec. 27, EILEEN and MAY TRIO, 10 instruments; rousing, picturesque, military dance; 7 distinct characters. Private address, 11, Gill-street, Liverpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Jan. 3, 10, 17.
The Great RHODE and ROCHE.
Featuring their Original and Clever Comedy Pot-Pourri Act, "The Chameleon, the Artist, and It." Some talk, some singing, and some comedy surprises, and some contortions. Own set.
N Real Novelty Act.

Dec. 27, Scala Theatre, Boston, Linc.

WANTED, Jan. 10, 17, 24, by
THE BROS. WEBB
(JOJO and RUTE),
World Renowned Comedy Musicians.

King's Theatre, Southsea.
Next, Empire Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.

THE BELGIAN TRIO,
THE BELGIAN TRIO,
the best Vocal and Musical Act.
Wonderful success last week at Blaenavon. This week, New Theatre, Maesteg. Tremendous success. Phenomenal soprano, who made such a hit everywhere.
WANTED, Dec. 27. Wire best offers.

WANTED, Engagements, Jan. 3 and 10, the FIVE MUSICAL TRITONS,
Gorgeous Spectacular Musical Act.

This week, Dec. 20, Palace, Bedworth.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
The 5 M. P.'s.
World-famous Musical Palmers.
Vacant, through misunderstanding,
Dec. 27, Dec. 27.
Monday next, Monday next.
Shares or cert.
"The Old Brigade," "Nelson."

Wire, wire, Hippo., Connah's Quay, Flintshire.
A Merry Xmas to all.

RICH TAYLOR.
RICH TAYLOR.
RICH TAYLOR.
RICH TAYLOR.
RICH TAYLOR.
RICH TAYLOR.
The Wonderful Whistling Ventriloquist.
Featuring Whistling, Mimicry, Singing, Flute Solos, and Ventriloquism.
With a lige-like automaton that whistles.

WANTED, Jan. 3, 10, and 17.
This week, Hippodrome, Liverpool. Second visit this year.

Next week, Pier, Southport. 5th tour.
Letter en route or leading agents.

BERT WILLIAMS,
BERT WILLIAMS,
BERT WILLIAMS,
Ventriloquist.

WANTED, Jan. 3 (North), Jan. 24 (Ireland).

Wire, Empire, Garston.

WANTED, by HARRY VARDON, the Ventriloquist, Monday next, Dec. 27; mid-week change.

Wire, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Dec. 27, and later, by VALVO, Ventriloquist, up-to-date novelty, refined comedy. Wire, 34, Amberley-street, Bradford.

15 Stone of Nonsense.
MADDEN,
the Burlesque Juggling Acrobat.

Last week, Picturedrome, Newark.
This week, Hippodrome, Peterborough.

WANTED, Monday next, and Jan. 3, to precede Lincoln. Wire quickly Monday next, above.

WANTED, Dec. 27, also Jan. 3 and 10, by MADAM VALLO, Queen of Second-sight Artistes, and DR. HOWARD, Illusionist and Hypnotist. Two distinct acts; gold and velvet fit-up. Wire or write, we do not want the earth, this, Valley Theatre, Holmfirth, Yorks.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday by
MORELL and SANTOI, Illusionists.
The Limit in Magic and Comedy. A great Act for the holidays. We entertain your audience, not send them to sleep. Wire, Workmen's Hall, Abercynon.

WANTED, Dec. 27, onwards, by
FANDOR TROUPE, Lady Acrobatic Trick Cyclists. This week, Hippodrome, Balham.

Letters, 36, Weavers-road, Wellingborough.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 3, JAAP VAN LAREN, the Jolly Dutchman on the Slack Wire. Wire, 53, Orchard-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted Known,
THE BROS. LLOYD.
THE BROS. LLOYD.
THE BROS. LLOYD.

The World's Greatest Tight-Rope Artistes.

In their double Bounding Cable Act.

Wanted offers, Jan. 3, 10, Feb. 14.
This (20th) and next (27th), Waverley Market, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Jan. 10, 17, 24, March 6, 20, by
THE FRENCH MORANDINIS,
THE FRENCH MORANDINIS,
THE FRENCH MORANDINIS,

Wonderful Acrobats.

This Palace, Blackburn.
Next, Pal., Burnley. Jan. 3, Hip., Middlesbrough.
Thanks Mr. G. Baure, Agent, for Contract.

WANTED, Dec. 27, Jan. 3 and 10, by
ATLAS-VULCANA TROUPE,
ATLAS-VULCANA TROUPE,
ATLAS-VULCANA TROUPE,

World Famous Society Athletes,
Beautiful, Artistic, and Sensational.

Dec. 20, Alh., Barnoldswick.
After Sat., Gosford Lodge, Fulham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for the Ever Popular Sketch,

"THE DEMON PHOTOGRAPHER."
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"THE DEMON PHOTOGRAPHER."
Jan. 3.
Jan. 3.
Jan. 3.

Salary or Shares.
Salary or Shares.
Salary or Shares.

One of the Best Comedy Knockabout Sketches on the Road.
Clean, Bright, and Successful Comedy.
Thanks for offers, but I am still vacant.
Also Feb. 21 vacant (North).
Also Feb. 21 vacant (North).
Also Feb. 21 vacant (North).

You are always sure of a good laughable time when the Photographer is about.
No bluff, but talent.

All come, to
CHARLIE BELL,
63, Barrington-road,
Brixton, London, S.W.

The Greatest of all Sketches,
"THE TOUCH OF THE CHILD."
SINCLAIR NEILL.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 24, 31.
This and next, Hip., Nottingham.

"Make your audience laugh," by booking
CARTER LIVESEY
and
LILIAN ROSEBERY.

In their famous Comedy Sketches.
As played at the Palace, Coliseum, Pavilion, and every principal hall in London and provinces.
"AN AMATEUR ANARCHIST."
"SOME REHEARSAL."
"THE WOULD-BE ACTORS."

Real laughing successes. Just what you want.

WANTED, Jan. 31, onward, with exceptions. Change mid-weekly if required. Can play on any stage.
Address, 59, Defoe-avenue, Kew Gardens.

WANTED, Jan. 10, 17, for LILIAN BEAUMONT'S Comedy Sketches, "Sally Mine" and "Woman's Rights." Three artistes; 20 and 25 minutes. Alany Ward Tour return. All coms., Palace, Salisury.

WANTED, wire for Monday next.
JOHN F. TRAYNOR AND CO.
in the highly successful Sketch,
"THE WHITE MOTHER."

Details.—Cast of 4. Own Set. 6-sheet by Allen's. Nothing old fashioned. Happy, clean, and popular ending. Does 3 and 4 calls. Booked 48 weeks in 1914, and 48 in 1915. Good proof of popularity.
A Vaudeville Sketch.
Booked and Re-booked by Messrs. Moss and Macnaghten.

Vacant Dec. 27, Jan. 10 and 31.

Wire, Borough Theatre, North Shields;
or Agents.

STUART CLEVELAND'S NO. 1 CO.
in
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Jan. 10, 17, 24, and on.

Mrs. Stuart Cleveland, 14, Fairmile-avenue,
Streatham.

FRED POWELL AND CO.,
including John Brittain,
"GETTING THE DINNER IN."
"GETTING THE DINNER IN."
"GETTING THE DINNER IN."

Own set. Three people. 15 minutes' merriment.

WANTED, Jan. 10, on.

Write, FRED POWELL,
Palace, Lincoln; next, Grand, Gravesend.

WANTED, Jan. 10, on. Scotland preferred, Buckingham's Performing Dogs; Alice Vernon, Queen of Brass Instrumentalists; Happy Harry Hellis, Dame Comedian. This, Palace, Retford; next, Empire, Biggleswade.

WANTED, Jan. 3, 10, and 17, by
MLLE. HENGLEUR'S
Famous RUSSIAN POODLES
and BRITISH TERRIERS.

Also Miniature Trick and
Joey Pony; together or separate; great holiday attraction and draw. Vacant through cancellation of Poole's Myriorama, owing to military authorities taking hall over, at Bristol. This week, Coliseum, Whitby. Next, Palace, Sunderland.

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